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EARLY LIBRARIES IN PENDLETON

By FRANCES LANDER SPAIN

Winthrop College

The earliest record of library activity in Pendleton District is found in the South Carolina *Statutes at Large*, under date of December 17, 1808, when the Legislature enacted:

I . . . That the Commissioners of the former county of Pendleton shall be, and they are hereby, released from all responsibility as commissioners as aforesaid, as soon as they shall have assigned over all the debts due to them as commissioners of the said county of Pendleton, and pay over all monies which have been received by them, and is still unappropriated, to use of the said county, to the Rev. James M'Elheney, John Taylor, Andrew Pickens, Jr., William Lee, Samuel Cherry, General Robert Anderson, Joseph Whitner, James C. Griffin and Thomas Johnson, and their successors in office.

II . . . That the said commissioners, and their successors in office, be, and they are hereby, authorized to receive all monies which may be due or in the hands of the present commissioners, belonging to the funds of the former county of Pendleton, and that they lay the same out for the purchase of books, and that they do therewith establish a public circulating library, under such rules and regulations as shall to them seem proper, and most likely to produce the greatest public utility.

III . . . That the Commissioners before mentioned shall have a right to fill up all vacancies which may happen, by resignation or otherwise, among said commissioners.¹

This act named the self-perpetuating library commissioners and empowered them to buy books, establish a public circulating library, draw up rules and regulations, and fill all vacancies in their ranks.

Circulating libraries were no novelty in South Carolina, for the state had before it the examples of the Charleston, Georgetown, and Beaufort Library Societies, and even the old Provincial Library. The unique feature of this Pendleton Library was that it was to be founded by public funds and the rules and regulations were to be formulated by the library commissioners. The colonial South Carolina Assembly in 1698 had contributed to the Provincial Library and, in the act legalizing it, had set up the rules and regulations for its service, but the impetus for its organization had come from the Church of England, an agency outside the colony. Except for the original donation of "drest skinns to the value of Seaventy Pounds Current Money" there was no provision for the financial support of that library from public funds. In the case of the Pendleton Library, the decision to have a library was of local origin and title to the public

¹ *Statutes at Large*, V, 578.

funds by which it was to be supported was vested in the library commissioners.

The commissioners on December 21, 1811, "petitioned the Legislature to be incorporated and erected into a body politic and corporate under the name and style of 'the Pendleton Circulating Library Society.'"² The petition was granted and the donations and devises were limited to one thousand dollars yearly. The commissioners named in the preamble to the act were the same, with two exceptions, as those named in the earlier Act of 1808 that established the library. William Lee and Thomas Johnson were replaced by John Lee and John F. Lewis.

On December 17, 1813, the Legislature directed the library commissioners to alter the west boundary of the public square in Pendleton village, so that side might be nearly parallel to the east side. The commissioners, John Taylor, Joseph Whitner, Andrew Pickens, Jr., James C. Griffin, Samuel Cherry, Robert Anderson, John L. North, and Joseph B. Earle, were directed:

. . . to sell and convey that portion of ground which may be thus thrown out of the public square, to the owners of the adjoining lots on that side, on the same terms that those lots originally sold for; and that the money received from such sale be added to the fund in the hands of said commissioners, to establish a circulating library in the district of Pendleton.³

Two other references to the Pendleton Circulating Library appear in the *Statutes*. On December 21, 1814, the commissioners asked the Legislature to amend the Act of Incorporation of 1811 so

. . . as to enable them to apply the funds of the said society to the endowment of an Academy at Pendleton Court House. *Be it therefore enacted . . .* That the said society . . . be . . . hereby authorized and empowered to vest all the funds of the said society in such way and in such persons, as to them shall seem expedient, for the purpose of endowing or aiding in the maintenance and support of an Academy at Pendleton Court House.⁴

The intent of the Legislature when the library was incorporated was to set up in Pendleton District a permanent collection of books, probably housed in the village, that would circulate among the residents of the district. The collection was to be established and maintained by public funds⁵ authorized by the Legislature. This would make the library similar to those in the Low Country except that the Pendleton Circulating Library

² *Ibid.*, VIII, 261-262.

³ *Ibid.*, V, 701.

⁴ *Ibid.* VIII, 271.

⁵ Evidence that it would be maintained by public funds is not in the act of incorporation. Editor.

was to be supported from public funds whereas those on the coast depended upon private subscriptions. The interpretation of this act by the commissioners emphasized service to the district and the dissemination of knowledge rather than the channel through which this could be accomplished. Therefore, after studying the problems incident to the organization of a library, the commissioners recommended that another agency, an academy, be organized as a more feasible means of carrying out the original purpose of the Legislature. In the petition for this change in purpose, the commissioners gave their reason for transferring the monies in their charge from a library fund to an academy endowment:

... the prudent management of their officers considerably increased the same (e.g. funds); and that they are desirous in conformity with what they esteem to have been the wish and views of the Legislature, to appropriate the said funds and property in that way, which will most essentially promote the growth of Science, and the diffusion of useful knowledge. But your petitioners, having possessed themselves of the best information in regard to the purchase of Books, and being duly impressed with the present situation of the country, feel confident that they cannot at this time establish a Circulating Library with any advantage. And being moreover well acquainted with the unconnected local condition of the widely dispersed population of their District, they are clearly of the opinion that a Library could never be productive of those great Benefits which they would desire to flow from its Establishment.

And they suggested the establishment of an academy at Pendleton "where the want of a permanent Institution of this kind has been long and deeply felt."⁶

It was not until 1825 that the academy was chartered and the commissioners of the Pendleton Circulating Library became the trustees of the Pendleton Academy:

... These persons, and their successors, who were, by an Act of Assembly passed in the year of Our Lord one thousand and eight hundred and eleven, incorporated by the name and style of the Pendleton Circulating Library Society be, and the same are hereby, reincorporated, by the name and style of the Board of Trustees of the Pendleton Academy.⁷

The capital of the academy was limited to \$10,000 and all property of the library was turned over to the academy.

From this petition it is obvious that the library was not set up as a functioning institution but instead its funds were diverted to the establishment of the academy. There was permissive legislation—it might be considered almost mandatory from the tone of the act—but the right, or obligation, to organize a library was never exercised. The library had a legal existence

⁶ MS petition, commissioners of Pendleton Circulating Library. S. C. Historical Commission, Columbia.

⁷ *Statutes*, VIII, 345.

from its creation in 1808 until its metamorphosis in 1825; this is shown both by public documents and notices in the *Pendleton Messenger*. Among documents relating to the library are two deeds to property sold by the commissioners under the Act of 1813. One is dated March 2, 1814 and is signed by Joseph Whitner, John L. North, Joseph C. Griffin, Andrew Pickens, Jr., John Lewis, and R. J. Anderson, Commissioners of Pendleton Circulating Library.⁸ The other deed is dated August 16, 1823. It is from the Pendleton Circulating Library Society to Thomas Pinckney, Jr., and John C. Calhoun for the Vestry and Warden of St. Paul's Church in Pendleton and is signed by the Commissioners, Robert Anderson, John L. North, James C. Griffin, Samuel Cherry, John T. Lewis, George Hall, and Francis Burt.⁹

Two of the original commissioners, Robert Anderson and James C. Griffin, served continuously from 1808 through 1823; four of the original board were still serving in 1813 and 1814; and one, Samuel Cherry, a commissioner in 1808 and 1813, was not serving in 1814, but was again a member in 1823.

The *Pendleton Messenger* carried a list of letters remaining in the post office at Pendleton Court House, for the quarter ending 30th of September, 1813, and on the list was one for the Pendleton Library.¹⁰ The other notices in the *Messenger* covering the dates of the library's legal life were from the commissioners. They announced, through the Secretary, John T. Lewis, the disposal of a lot of real estate "at public outcry" and later requested "all persons indebted to the Commissioners to call on Samuel Cherry, their treasurer, and pay the interest due on their respective notes, on or before the first Monday of March next; or else their notes will be put in suit."¹¹

There are two other references to the Pendleton Circulating Library in books about the region and its people. Richard Wright Simpson wrote that it "was incorporated in 1811 and that it continued to operate until 1825 when it was incorporated by the Legislature as the Pendleton Male Academy."¹² Evidently he was not distinguishing between the legal creation of a library by legislative act and the actuality of a working collection of books for use. Benjamin Sloan gave the following description of the academy library: "In the school building was also a good library. The books of classical authors (translations); of history; of travels; mis-

⁸ Deed in possession of Mr. Gaillard Hunter, Pendleton.

⁹ Deed in possession of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Pendleton.

¹⁰ *Pendleton Messenger*, Oct. 16, 23, 1813.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, Nov. 13, 1813, Feb. 9, 1814.

¹² *History of Old Pendleton District with a Genealogy of the Leading Families of the District* (Anderson, S. C., 1913), p. 20.

cellaneous books of science and of standard English literature were to be found upon its shelves."¹³

It seems possible that the commissioners, still conscious of their original purpose, set up a library as soon as the academy was opened and that it took the place of the circulating library which should have been established in 1808. The *Pendleton Messenger* for Wednesday, May 6, 1829 carried this notice: "All persons entitled to receive Books from the Library of the Philomathean Society can do so by calling at the Academy on Friday next, between the hours of twelve and two o'clock." There is no clarification of the persons who were entitled to use this library; they might have been the students, or graduates of the academy, or the people of the village. From its name, Philomathean Society, one would judge this to be a typical college literary society of its time, with use of its books limited to members, both those still in the academy and those who had graduated and were living in the neighborhood. Whatever the explanation, and without more data, it is impossible to make a closer identification of the Society; this may have been the "good library" that Mr. Sloan remembered.

Either this library was not adequate in size or its circulation privileges were restricted to a very small group in the village, for there are suggestive indications of a considerable library activity in the little town in the years 1826-1828. The Friendly Library Society was incorporated for Pendleton on December 19, 1827.¹⁴ Its petition indicated that this was the second attempt to secure a charter:

We petitioned the last session of the Legislature for an Incorporation but did not succeed in considerance of our not having a capital (as we were informed). We state that our Library is worth about one hundred and Twenty Dollars at this time and the prospect is very encouraging. We hope therefore our petition will not be neglected.¹⁵

This determination on the part of the members to have their society incorporated shows that its importance to them was so great that they were not deterred from their purpose by a legislative rebuff. It has been found in this study of library societies that they were often established for several years before they applied for incorporation. If this were true in the case of the Friendly Library Society, its organization may have antedated its incorporation by two or three years or even longer, and might have taken place in the early years of the 1820's. No further record of this library society has been located.

Robert Mills does not mention a library by name in his *Statistics*, but

¹³ Benjamin Sloan, "Wholly Reminiscent," *Pendleton Farmers' Society* (Atlanta; 1908), p. 57.

¹⁴ *Statutes*, VIII, 352.

¹⁵ MS petition, Friendly Library Society. Historical Commission, Columbia.

the following observation on Pendleton leads one to suppose that there was an active library in the community:

... a number of the citizens being intelligent and independent in their circumstances, the useful arts and literature are much cultivated. A taste for reading is disseminating itself through the district. It is much to be desired that circulating libraries, composed of select works, were more general throughout the country.¹⁶

This might refer to the Friendly Library Society books or to the library in the academy. Or, it might mean that Mills knew of the Act of 1808 creating the library for the district and that he, too, confused that with a functioning library.

Another subscription library, The Pendleton Library Society, was formed on October 5, 1828.¹⁷ Later in the same month the *Pendleton Messenger* carried the following notice:

A number of persons in the vicinity of this place impressed with the importance of a cheap library of Books, peculiarly devoted to that department of the Arts and Sciences which immediately interest mechanics and Farmers, are desirous of forming a Society for that purpose. Those who wish to become members are requested to meet on Saturday next at 12 o'clock at Lowther Hall for the purpose of forming such an Association.¹⁸

While it is possible that this notice refers to the library society organized two weeks earlier, two factors suggest that it was an independent effort to organize library service. The Pendleton Library Society met in the Farmers' Hall,¹⁹ but the meeting place in this advertisement was Lowther Hall, a residence built by Lord Lowther as a hunting lodge. Moreover, the Pendleton Library Society was a social reading circle with books of general interest to both men and women, while this notice is addressed to mechanics and farmers who would need specialized books. Whether this second association was ever formed is not known. The minutes of the Pendleton Library Society make no reference to a general invitation to membership in the society, such as this notice indicates, nor do they mention either the Friendly Library Society or the one at the academy. The village was too small to support several libraries and it is very possible that all library efforts in Pendleton were merged into one self-sustaining society. This society was never incorporated, but that it was organized and served its community for at least five years²⁰ and probably longer is definitely known. Simms wrote of Pendleton in 1843, "it contains . . . an Academy,

¹⁶ *Statistics of South Carolina . . .* (Charleston, 1826), p. 683.

¹⁷ MS Minutes. Pendleton Library, Pendleton.

¹⁸ Oct. 15, 1828.

¹⁹ Announcement in *Pendleton Messenger, infra*.

²⁰ Pendleton Library Society minutes Oct. 5, 1828 to Oct. 18, 1833.

a newspaper and printing office, a public library and an Agricultural Society."²¹ This must refer to the Pendleton Library Society for, though a private subscription library, its by-laws permitted non-member residents of the village to use its facilities. By broad construction therefore it might be considered a "public library." Or, it is possible that Simms, as others, interpreted all library activity in Pendleton in the light of the Act of 1808 creating the Pendleton Circulating Library, and labeled all library organization there "public." There is no organic connection between the Pendleton Library Society and the Circulating Library established by the Act of 1808. However, the same interest in books for pleasure and informational reading which was part of the cultural pattern of Pendleton society was instrumental in the organization of each library and represents the intellectual stimulus for both publicly and privately supported library service.

Several years ago an old ledger book was found, along with other papers, in a garage in Greenville, a city about thirty miles from Pendleton. Upon examination, it was found to be the minutes of the first years of the Pendleton Library Society, and it was promptly returned to the village, where it is now kept in the Public Library. These are the only minutes extant of any library society in Pendleton. The constitution and by-laws are missing but much information about the subscription library is derived from this record. During the fifth year of the society's existence, the by-laws were amended and the rules and regulations of the society may be reconstructed from the report of the revision committee.

The first entry in the minutes, October 5, 1828, recorded that several subscribers met "to form a circulating library society in, or near the village of Pendleton," at which meeting Mistress E. P. Huger was elected president. The Pendleton Library Society was one of the few that included women members, and at the first meeting established the custom of having a woman for president. It is possible that this was a rule of the Library Society, but as the by-laws are not extant there is no way to know it.

The Society held only one regular meeting a year:

Pendleton Social Library

A meeting of this Society will take place on the First Monday of October (being the Anniversary) at the Farmers' Hall in Pendleton, at eleven o'clock, in the forenoon.²²

At that meeting, the Lady President reported that forty books had been put into circulation and that among the books returned there seemed to have been some fines incurred, but "so few that it has been thought best not to enforce them at the first commencement of the Society." The

²¹ *The Geography of South Carolina* (Charleston; 1843), p. 120.

²² *Pendleton Messenger*, Sept. 30, 1829.

members then voted that "a fine of twenty-five cents shall hereafter be imposed for retaining a book three days beyond the time allowed, instead of one day, as ordered by the ninth rule of the society."

The next meeting was held on November 15, 1830, at which time the only business was the election of Mrs. Harleston as Lady President and her appointment of Mr. Harleston as Secretary and Treasurer.

A special meeting was called in June, 1831 to regulate the circulation of several books at a time. The society voted, "if two or more books are taken, [members] shall date them in such manner as to afford time for reading each in succession." This action provides a glimpse of one of the rules of the society. Evidently there was no limit to the number of books that a member might take at a time, but instead, provision was made for the circulation of as many books as a member might feel able to read, and the loan period was adjusted to the number of books taken out at one time. This liberality of circulation antedates our unlimited circulation by almost a hundred years and marks these Pendleton citizens as people of broad vision and insight into the true function of a library.

Then, as now, people did not always obey the rules of the library, for at the meeting of the society on October 3, 1831, it was reported that "some members were leaving books at the different stores in the village, instead of forwarding them as according to the rule." There must have been a schedule of circulation for the books from member to member, but whether this sequence was determined by lottery or individual preference is not known. Neglect on the part of the members to honor the ordered succession of book circulation was flagrant enough to give over one of the annual meetings to its consideration. Indifference to the value of books and disregard for rules seems to be reflected in this behavior of the members; on the other hand it mirrors the customs and living conditions of the community. The stores in the village were used by the residents of the neighborhood as a kind of clearing house, or place of exchange, where things (and this very logically included books) were left to be picked up later by the persons for whom they were intended. The disapproval in the minutes of the society does not indicate that books were lost; rather that it was against the rules, and that this method of delivery was slow and delayed the circulation of the books.

Membership in the Pendleton Library Society was limited to people living in, or near, the village of Pendleton. In the minutes for May 7, 1832 is this entry, "Colonel Bonham, having removed from this neighborhood, by the seventh Rule he can no longer be considered as a member of the Society." This indicated a much more limited membership than one would expect from people who had had before them the idea of a District Circulating Library.

At the same meeting a committee, appointed to amend the constitution, submitted its findings and from the report some notion of the rules and by-laws can be formed.

The first recommendation was "that it would be expedient for them [members] to rescind the resolution which required that the books, after having been read by the members, should be disposed of by lottery." This confirms the supposition that the books circulated on some kind of schedule so that every member had an opportunity to read all books, and stresses the circulating feature of the library. The amendment indicated further a change in the type of library maintained by the society. The original plan must have embraced a purely transitory group of books that were read by all of the members and then distributed to them by lot. This made the Society little more than a reading circle. Under the new program, books would remain the property of the society, not of the individual members of the society, and would cumulate into a permanent book stock subject to further reading by any one. The next three recommendations strengthen this idea:

First, that a librarian be appointed by the Lady President who shall receive for his services all the money paid by persons who are not members for the use of the library and all the fines from members:

Second, that the books be transferred to the librarian . . . and housed in some suitable room;

And third, that members have access to them at all times.

Here for the first time is reference to a person who should care for the books, keep some record of them, and house them in an accessible location. The librarian was evidently a member of the society, appointed by the lady president as the secretary-treasurer was, for the fees and fines were scarcely large enough to attract or support a professional librarian. These amendments also disclose provision for non-member use of the library but this item is covered by a later rule and can be discussed then.

The fifth and sixth by-laws concerned the circulation rules of the Society: "that members may take home any volume, or set, and keep them (not to be loaned out) for a period not exceeding one week for each volume, and must return them to the library"; and "that if they desire to keep them longer, they may, on ascertaining from the Librarian that no other person, whether member or not, has inquired for them, renew their time; this renewal can not be repeated." The circulation period was short—only a week—which is in contrast with the longer circulation periods permitted on the coast. This reflects the difference in living conditions of the two areas and points up the close relationship between general community conditions and the regulations of institutions that served the community.

Here in Pendleton, a small village with people living within its corporate limits or in its immediate neighborhood, was a relatively closeknit community. The outlying plantation system of the Low Country had not been developed here and the modification of rules and regulations according to distance and time was not necessary.

To counteract the restrictions afforded by a short circulation period, the Pendleton Library Society rules permitted the renewal of books for one additional week. This was allowed only if one no else, either member or not, had asked for the books, and gives another evidence of the courtesies extended non-members of the society. One other side-light is thrown on the administrative practices of the society by the parenthetical expression "not to be loaned out." Books were to circulate only through the librarian and not to be passed around without a record of who had them and when they were due. Whether the society was interested in building up circulation statistics as a measure of its use, or was conscious that persons were less apt to return books that had not been checked out through the prescribed channel, is not indicated.

The next suggested rule provided penalties for keeping books overtime by setting up a schedule of fines based on a sliding scale:

... if books be detained beyond the specified time there shall be paid for each volume one cent per day for the *first* week, for every day of the *second* week two cents, for every day of the *third* week three cents, and so on, increasing weekly by the addition of the first fine.

This rule was based on the principle that the longer a book was kept overtime the greater the offense and consequently the greater the penalty. It also encouraged the users of the Library Society to return books early by making fines correspondingly light for prompt return.

The eighth proposal in the amended rules and by-laws governed the use of the library by persons other than members of the society:

That persons within seven miles of the village of Pendleton may take out the books for perusal by depositing in the hands of the Librarian the price of any volume or set; and on returning the volume or set must pay to the Librarian six and a quarter cents per week per volume (a week being allowed for each volume) and be liable to the same fines and Rules as the members:—any person paying *Two* dollars in advance for one year or *One dollar, twenty-five* cents for six months may take out books liable only to the fines and rules for delivery.

This rule and sections of rules two and six reflect the generous attitude of the members of the Pendleton Library Society towards citizens of the community who were not members of the society. By depositing enough money to cover the cost of each volume taken out, or, by making a stated advance deposit, persons within a radius of seven miles of Pendleton might

enjoy the privileges of the library. A small fee for the use of the books—six and a quarter cents per week per volume—was charged when they were returned. Requests of these non-member users of the library were considered equally with those of the members when permission to renew a book was granted. According to the second amended rule, if a non-member inquired for a book that was in circulation the person who had it, even if a member of the society, might not renew it.

The next rule was that “books taken out, if lost or materially damaged are to be paid for by the person in whose name they were taken out.” This placed the responsibility for the care or replacement of books directly on the person in whose name they were held. Here was no “treble,” or “double” the value of the books, as early Low Country library rules had required; simply the reimbursement of the library for its actual loss.

The last two rules concerned the hours that the library was open and fixed the final responsibility for its preservation: “the Librarian shall attend on Monday and Friday from four to six in the afternoon” and “the Library and Librarian shall be under the superintendence of the Lady President.” Two afternoons a week the librarian kept the library open so that members might have access to the books. The Lady President, as the highest officer of the society, had the final supervision of the library and librarian. The meetings of the Library Soceity were held in the Farmers’ Hall but there is no indication that the books were kept there. During the sixties and seventies the ladies met and read and had tea in a house on the highway to Anderson.

The last entry in the minutes book is for October 18, 1833, when thirty members were present. The Lady President reported that “owing to the negligence of the members the volumes sent out have had but an imperfect circulation.”

An undated treasurer’s report in the minutes book reported thirty-two members, and \$40.50 in subscriptions and arrears. This indicates that the dues must have been very reasonable, in contrast to the high fees paid in the library societies on the coast. This report also recorded a bill of one dollar for “Freight for the last parcel (of books) from Charleston per stage.” Though there was great jealousy between the Up Country and the Low Country, the people of Pendleton, many of whom had family connections on the coast, had never indulged in these animosities, and it is not surprising to find them buying their books from Charleston book shops or importing them from England through the port of Charleston. From there the long trip up the state was made by slow stage.

The records of library activity in Pendleton are few and fragmentary, but highly significant. Here in this small Up Country village, a consciousness of the value of books and the concept of public responsibility for the

support of libraries, was developed. The Pendleton Circulating Library, the Philomathean Society Library at the academy, the Friendly Library Society, the library proposed to be formed for farmers and mechanics, and the Pendleton Library Society, were the outward expressions of this conviction. Two types of library organization are here represented. The first and earlier plan was to establish a permanent collection of books to be used again and again by all the residents of the district. The other organization was an association of individuals who pooled their funds to buy books that rotated among the members until all had read them. The Pendleton Library Society began as the latter, but, as this society grew, its members recognized the advisability of developing a permanent book stock and, through a revision of the constitution and by-laws, they changed the society from the reading circle that it had been, to a circulating library with a permanent collection.

DEATH NOTICES FROM THE GAZETTE OF THE STATE
OF SOUTH-CAROLINA,¹ CHARLESTON, S. C.

Contributed by ELIZABETH HEYWARD JERVEY

Last Thursday died, aged 63 Years, Lionel Chalmers, Esq., M. D.—an able experienced, humane and charitable Physician,—a very respectable Character in the Literary World,—a most valuable Member of the Community. (Monday, May 12, 1777)

Last Wednesday died, John Brewton Esq.;—lamenting that he could not live longer to serve his country. (Monday, May 19, 1777)

An unhappy Dispute having lately arisen, between the Hon. Button Gwinnet, Esq., late Governor of Georgia, and General M'Intosh, the Commanding Officer of the Continental Troops in that State, the same was determined by a Duel between the Parties, with Pistols, last Friday Morning se'nnight, when both the Combatants were wounded. Mr. Gwinnet died of his wound, and was interred Yesterday se'nnight; and the General, we hear, lay dangerously ill. (Monday, May 26, 1777)

Tuesday last died Lieut. George Eveleigh, of the 2d Regiment. The same day died, Mrs. Katharine Burger, the wife of Mr. David Burger. Yesterday morning died George Sommers, Esq., who arrived and settled here in the Year 1722, and lived to the Age of 77. (Monday, May 26, 1777)

On the 11th ult. died, at the High Hills of Santee, on his return from the Northward, the Rev. William Tennent, A. M. Pastor of the congregational church of this town. A gentleman possessed of a genius far above the common size. . . . A fond parent, a tender husband, a sincere friend, an active warm, zealous and disinterested patriot, an eloquent preacher, and an exemplary Christian. Without his knowledge or consent he was called forth, by his country, to take a share in the political bustle of the times, in

¹ Since 1915, this *Magazine* has been publishing installments of marriage and death notices compiled from the files of old *Gazettes* owned by the Charleston Library Society. The plan has been to supplement and not to repeat the notices compiled and published in book form by Alexander Samuel Salley. Omissions for 1766-1774 were printed in this *Magazine* in 1933. The death notices here are for the years immediately following Mr. Salley's compilation for 1732-1775. With the completion of these notices, publication will be resumed with those for 1823, to which year they were carried in the last issue.

which situation, they who differed most from him, will allow, that his intentions were uniformly honest and upright, and that he rendered his country important services. Though his active zeal, in support of equal impartial religious liberty amongst ourselves, may have procured him opposition and obloquy; yet, the candid and impartial freely acknowledge, that his name deserves to be remembered with gratitude, by every hearty friend to the independence of America, and the civil and religious rights of mankind. (Monday, Sept. 15, 1777)

On the 20th of last month died, Louis Felix, Baron Mastenberg, an able engineer in the continental service. He was a great favorite of Major General Lee, with whom he came to this state; was much esteemed and is much regretted: His funeral was attended by all the principal officers of the army &c. and he was buried with due military honours. (Monday, Sept. 15, 1777)

On the 31st of last month died much regretted by all well-wishers to the Common Cause in which the United States of America are engaged, as well as by all who had the pleasure of an acquaintance with him, Col. William Kennon, of North Carolina. (Monday, Sept. 15, 1777)

On Friday last died, Doctor James Carsan, of John's-Island, a most facetious and agreeable companion, and an honest man. Also Mr. Hrabowski of this Town, Shop-keeper. (Monday, Sept. 15, 1777)

On Saturday last died, Mr. Jacob Waldron, late one of the Pilots for this port and harbour. (Tuesday, October 14, 1777)

Last Saturday died Capt. Calvin Ely, master of the ship Nancy, lately arrived from New England. (Tuesday, October 28, 1777)

And on Sunday died, Mrs. Mary Guerin, widow of Mr. William Guerin deceased. (Tuesday, October 28, 1777)

Last Friday died, David Graeme, Esq. who some years since retired from the practice of the law. (Tuesday, November 18, 1777)

On Saturday last died, Mrs. Mary Rout, wife of Mr. George Rout, of this town. (Tuesday, November 25, 1777)²

² Six issues during the interval December 1, 1777-June 21, 1778, are missing.

Last week died Paul Townsend, Esq. one of the Representatives of this town in the present General Assembly, a zealous asserter of the rights of America, and one of the foremost of those patriots who undauntedly opposed the introduction of stamps into this state in the year 1765. His private character was that, of an honest man. (Wednesday, July 8, 1778)

Mr. Archibald Broun and Alexander Wright, Esq. of this State, Mr. Thomas Young and ——— Murray of Philadelphia Esq. late of the state of Georgia, are returned from Europe, by way of the Northern Colonies. These gentlemen confirm the account we had of the death of Lord Chatham. (Wednesday, August 12, 1778)

Accounts of deaths which may be called public losses, will be in our next. —To give the characters of Captain Benjamin Stone, and the Hon. Col. Barnard Elliott,³ we would be glad of the assistance of friends, lest we should not be able to do ample justice to their exalted merit. (Wednesday, October 28, 1778)

The Sloop Sally, commanded by Capt. Benjamin Stone (one of the Vessels fitted out by the Merchants to scour the Coast) returned into port, with 5 men killed and 12 wounded. . . . having engaged a large Cat Transport Ship off Port Royal bar. He first attacked at some distance . . . but observing only 8 Guns, which were not well managed, . . . he approached within Musket shot, . . . the wind died away and left his Vessel becalmed along-side of the Enemy, who then appeared crowded in every part of the ship, . . . poured incessant showers of Musket Balls and Buck Shot, down upon the ship's deck, that it was with the greatest Difficulty that the Vessel was rowed off. The ship was full of Soldiers chiefly in green Uniforms, some red, and some wore Scots Bonnets. . . . Amongst the killed was Capt. Francis Johnson of this Town. Capt. Stone himself received a slight concussion in his side, Capt. Mercer had his throat skinned, and Capt. Milligan lost the club of his Hair and some skin by the Enemy's Shot. . . . The five brave Men who lost their lives in the service of their country, were on Friday, carried upon 5 different Hearses, and interred in St. Philip's Church-Yard, 6 Masters of Vessels bearing the Pall of each, attended by a numerous Concourse of Seamen and of the Inhabitants, besides the Volunteer Company and the Company of Fuzileers, in their respective Uniforms who concluded the Ceremony, by a discharge of three Vollies over the Graves. (Wednesday, December 30, 1778)

³ For Col. Elliott's obituary, see this *Magazine* (1916), XVII, 150.

[The following are from the *Charlestown Gazette*, Tuesday, January 26, 1779, vol. I, no. 23, published by Mary Crouch and Company; bound in with the *Gazette of the State of South-Carolina*:

Last Friday died, aged 59 years, Mrs. Helen Rantowle, wife of Mr. Alexander Rantowle.

Last week died George Gabriel Powell, Esq., of Christ Church Parish.]

A Privateer of the Enemy attempted to go into Edisto Yesterday; when one of the Guns from which the Militia fired upon her burst, killed James Murray, Esquire, one of the Representatives in the present General Assembly and hurt some others. (Wednesday, February 3, 1779)

Extract of a Letter, February 4.

Yesterday it was announced to us, that the enemy were landed at Laurel Bay, and moving on briskly towards Beaufort. Our little force immediately marched about a mile out of Town to a very advantageous post.... they had gone on to the Ferry, we immediately moved to gain another strong post.... before we could accomplish this they came down upon us rapidly.... We began to attack.... it was judged prudent we should retire to Beaufort; which circumstance, prevented our completely routing the enemy.... Our loss is 7 killed and 33 wounded. Among the first is Lieutenant Benjamin Wilkins of the Charlestown artillery, who died this morning, greatly lamented, on account of his virtues and merit, both as a citizen and a soldier. Capt. Heyward received a slight wound in his arm. Lieut. Sawyer and Lieutenant Brown of the Charlestown light Infantry, each slightly wounded in the thigh.... (Wednesday, February 24, 1779.)

(To be continued)

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF WILLIAM JOHN GRAYSON

Edited by SAMUEL GAILLARD STONEY

(Continued from April)

CHAPTER IX

The Session of 1833 was about the time when the Senate of the United States reached the highest point of elevation in dignity and talent. In addition to the three eminent Statesmen, Clay, Webster and Calhoun, to whom the first place was universally conceded, many others little inferior to them in reputation or ability occupied seats in the Senate chamber. Among them were Clayton, Southard, Preston, Rives, Berrien, Benton, Poindexter, Wright, Frelinghuysen, Bibb and others. It was an august body hardly equalled, certainly not surpassed, by any English house of Lords. Yet it was before this body of remarkable men that the most ridiculous farce was played, month after month and year after year beginning in 1834 and ending in 1837. On one side it was proposed to censure the President for removing the public money from one bank to another. The removal was represented as a violation of the laws and dangerous to the liberties of the people. It was replied on the other hand that the public money was unsafe in its former place of deposit and it was the duty of the President to transfer it to more honest hands. The debate was carried on with unparalleled acrimony and violence. It was difficult to say who was most vehement, Clay, Calhoun, or Webster. If the President had attempted to usurp all the powers of the government their denunciations could not have been fiercer. They succeeded in their purpose after four months labour. The resolution was passed. The censure was imposed. Forthwith, on the other side, Mr. Benton brandished his expunging resolution, a resolution to wipe out the censure from the Senate records. This again was debated month after month with increasing fury. At the end of three years the resolution was adopted. Jackson's lieutenant was triumphant and the great triumvirate were prostrate in the dust. There is not perhaps in the language a more amusing specimen of the mock heroic than Benton's account of what he calls "the last scene". The supporters of the measure held a council and decided that on a certain day the vote should be taken in the Senate. The day came. Ample supplies for supporting the strength and courage of the Jackson party were provided in a committee room. The Senate Chamber was crowded. The people filled the galleries. In vain, Clay, Calhoun, Webster and their followers strove to wear out the energies of their opponents by much talk. They were allowed to make their dying speeches without a reply. At midnight the

question was demanded. The Ayes and Nos were called. The resolution to expunge was adopted. The journals were produced. At the sight of them the galleries hissed and yelled. The great Expunger in a roar of fury demanded the arrest of the bank ruffians. It was done and order was restored. The great work went on. The hateful resolution of censure, passed in 1834, was enclosed within black lines, crossed and recrossed, and on its face was written, "Expunged by resolution of the Senate, March 9th, 1837". Clay, Webster and Calhoun were made to eat dirt before the people. Their enemies were feasted at the White House. A great dinner was given to the victorious expungers and their wives. The President was sick and Benton presided. They were jovial and happy as Homer's gods in having vindicated the insulted honour of their illustrious ruler.

The coolest, shrewdest and most successful in the political game which all were playing on this occasion was the presiding officer of the Senate, the vice-president, Mr. Van Buren. He has been painted very black by his opponents but he was no worse than his neighbours. The chances turned in his favour and he used them as they would have done if it had been in their power. If not a good natured man Mr. Van Buren was an excellent actor of good nature. He was never ruffled, but always calm under attack and steady in the hottest fire. When our Senator launched at him terms and phrases more forcible than decorous he received them all with a smile. He was always ready to preserve friendly social relations with his opponents and was too accomplished a hand in the game which all were playing, to get angry at defeats and losses. In the grand debate of 1834 on the removal of the deposits when Mr. Clay solemnly turned to the chair and addressed its occupant not as Presiding Officer of the Senate, but as the confidential friend and adviser of the President, when he adjured the Vice-President to deliver a message, to represent to the Chief Executive the ruin which the policy of the Government in reference to the bank was fast bringing on the whole Country, Mr. Van Buren listened with a gravity and attention at least equal to the solemnity of the Speaker. When the speech was ended, the Vice-President left the chair, walked over to the Senator's seat, took a pinch of snuff from the box that was always open and in this way intimated to his brother politician that he understood the game in which they were engaged and was willing to play it with proper decorum. They were like two Roman augurs recently come from inspecting the entrails of an offering to their gods, both aware of the farce they were acting, but both thoroughly trained to keep a grave countenance and to refrain from laughing in each other's face. None of the priests attendant in the temple of Demos at that time behaved so well as Mr. Van Buren in this part of their duty. Mr. Clay was too irascible, Mr. Webster too indifferent, and Mr. Calhoun too earnest and abrupt.

It is fortunate for the World's peace that the people are subject to strong illusions as to the motives and character of their rulers, as to the singleness of their ends and the purity of their patriotic purposes. Government otherwise would be an impossible thing. If it were commonly understood that legislation is a mere scramble of private interests; that long discussions turn not on questions of public good but of personal advantage; that the advancement of a party not of the Country directs the politician; that the Orator is really thinking of himself and not of the people, how could laws and lawgivers command obedience or respect? Mr. Clay says in a letter to Judge Brooke, "It is inexpressibly disgusting to find that considerations affecting an election four years distant influence the fate of great questions more than all the reason and argument that can be used." If so disgusting to an old politician, a veteran member of the corporation, what would it be to the simple honest people if they happened to know it. But they do not know it. They have the same faith in their prophets that Joe Smith's followers had in him and with no better reason. And so in either case government goes on. Remove the faith, expose the reality and anarchy would follow. Sometimes the reality is exposed and revolution ensues to be replaced in turn by renewed faith, fresh delusions, and other revolts.

There is great variety of character in an American Congress, in the house of Representatives especially. They come from a wide extent of country and represent every diversity of manners from the refinement of the great city to the rudeness of border life. Among those most remarkable in 1833, David Crockett was not the least famous. He was a dull, heavy, almost stupid man, in appearance. I never heard him utter a word that savoured of wit or sense. To judge from his features one would have supposed such an event impossible. Yet by some freak of fortune he became the reputed author of innumerable queer sayings and stories, a man of infinite joke, an incarnation of frontier oddity, a sort of Western Joe Miller. He was a good natured, kind hearted man and a general favourite in the house. He was a brave soldier too and had seen service in the Texan war with Mexico, but he was the last man in the house that a stranger would have pitched upon as a wit and humourist.

At a desk not far from Crockett, Wilde of Georgia, presented a thorough contrast to the Western member. One was stout and clumsy in person with a blotchy fair complexion and light eyes, ungainly in address and manners; the other dark, of good figure, with black eyes, easy, sprightly, engaging in conversation, a good speaker and, still more, a poet. He was the writer of the song beginning, "My life is as a summer rose," the authorship of which was challenged in various quarters and gave rise to some literary controversy. The song is from a poem which I believe was never published or completed. The poem tells the story of a luckless Spaniard from De

Soto's expedition who has been captured by the Indians and remained a prisoner in Florida during many years. When now an old man he paces the beach of Tampa Bay while the visions of his youth rise up in his memory, and casts a longing look on the Ocean that separates him from his native land. He gives voice to his grief in the song to which I have alluded.

I sat near Col. Richard M. Johnson of Kentucky, "the man who killed Tecumseh". He was a favourite with the people of Kentucky from his services in the Indian wars of the North West and from his frank popular manners, though some sneers were current respecting certain of the Old Soldier's domestic relations. I was greatly obliged on one occasion by his friendly interposition. The incident may serve to illustrate the mode in which public business was transacted during the partisan administration of General Jackson. A constituent, a mail-contractor, had sent to me from home a claim for ten thousand dollars on the Post Office Department. The claim was undoubted. I called at the department again and again but could get no money. I was not an adherent of General Jackson. Worse than that, I was from the pestilent State of South Carolina, a compatriot of John Cataline Calhoun, as Francis P. Blair, the disinterested patriot, was accustomed to call the South Carolina Senator. On one of these fruitless visits, I was descending the steps of the Post Office, in very bad humour, at the ill success of my efforts when I met Col. Johnson. "What is the matter," he asked. I told my story. "Give me your papers," he replied, "and let me see what I can do to assist you." I gave him the papers and received a draft for the money on the day following to the great joy of my correspondent at home, who had been waiting for a year or two almost in despair. The explanation is easy. Col. Johnson lived, while at Washington, in the family of the Revd. Obadiah Brown, chief clerk of the Post Office Department and reputed author of the celebrated report on Sunday mails presented to Congress by a committee of which Col. Johnson was chairman. Brown was virtually head of the department. Post Master General Barry was incapable of business and was soon after sent on some foreign mission which he filled with success as there was nothing to do. Johnson's influence with the acting head of the Post Office secured payment for me without delay.

The great battle between Jackson and Nicholas Biddle backed by the Bank, the Whig Party, and South Carolina, produced an unusual display of elaborate oratory. Clay, Webster, and Calhoun strove to surpass each other in their efforts. Philadelphia sent her great lawyer, Horace Binney to take a part in the fray. He went reluctantly from the bar to add his voice to the storm of argument and invective that assailed the administration. Crowds of people from all parts of the Union drawn by interest or

curiosity assembled at the Capital. For months the removal of the public money from the safe keeping of Mr. Biddle was the standing topic with both houses of Congress. Both parties appealed to the passions of the people. The great cities were in constant agitation. They sent deputations with monster petitions to Washington. The deputations found Jackson inflexible and invincible. They complained of impending commercial ruin. He charged them with over-trading on fictitious capital. They bewailed the universal scarcity of money; he referred them to Nick Biddle. It was Biddle who caused the distress for sinister purposes. Biddle had millions locked up in the bank vaults; let him put them in circulation. The deputations transferred their griefs from the President to their delegations in Congress and gave fresh impulse to the excitement. Jackson was denounced, day after day, as something worse than Nero or Caligula. He, on the other hand accused his adversaries, Poindexter particularly, with designs to assassinate him. The attempt of a lunatic to fire a pistol at him, in the Rotunda, while attending the funeral of Warren R. Davis, furnished a pretext for the accusation. There was indeed in the act of the madman no very remote connection with the proceedings in Congress. Day after day violent denunciations were uttered against Jackson as the sole cause of the derangement in business and of the suffering that pervaded the Country. It was his act that removed the public deposits from Biddle's bank. It was the removal of the deposits that produced the general distress. A man with a mind heated and unhinged by personal losses hearing all this from the highest authorities might easily bring himself to repeat the scene witnessed by England in the death of Percival, when he was killed by Bellingham as the author of the commercial calamities of which Bellingham and his friends were victims.

Among all the celebrated speakers assembled on this remarkable occasion, W. C. Preston, I thought, had most of the genuine spirit of the Orator—the gift which Nature imparts and which no art or labour can produce—the power possessed by Chatham and Patrick Henry, that enabled Whitefield, while preaching in behalf of a charity, to empty the pockets of Franklin, first of their copper, then of their silver, and at last of their gold, in spite of the resolution to give nothing with which the Doctor had gone to the meeting. It is the fate of many good stories to be apocryphal. This may belong to the number. It is certainly not in keeping with "Poor Richard's" reputation for frugality and self-control. But the anecdote true or false illustrates strikingly the power of great natural eloquence. Mr. Preston's oratory wrought no such wonders. It was not without its triumphs nevertheless. An imputation was one day made in the Senate on the factious proceedings of South Carolina. Mr. Preston replied at once in a speech of a half hour which Mr. Everett declared was

the most eloquent he had ever heard. This was high praise especially from Mr. Everett because Preston's manner must have been the reverse of his own; one was fire, the other ice.

Mr. Clay was an orator, long and carefully trained and of imposing manner and appearance. His declamation was magnificent, his figure tall and commanding, his voice powerful, flexible, musical, and under perfect command. He had more action with one exception perhaps than any speaker in the Senate. He moved from his desk. He walked up and down between the rows of seats. He took snuff. He used his hands freely. He varied his voice; was sometimes rapid, sometimes slow, sometimes solemn, sometimes playful. He mingled wit with reasoning and invective with argument. But with all his success in the arts of rhetoric he never seemed to me to reach the highest art. His art was not concealed. He had the air of an accomplished actor playing a part with great skill but with an eye always on the audience and their applause. Mr. Clay was the great "compromiser". Long before Macaulay announced to the world that "the essence of politics is compromise", Mr. Clay had acted on the maxim. Unfortunately for the reputation of the Kentucky statesman as to sagacity or consistency he abandoned his role when a steady adherence to it would have increased his fame and prolonged the life of the American Republic. He opposed the proposition to extend the Missouri line of compromise to the Pacific ocean. He destroyed in 1842 the compromise tariff act of his own making ten years before. These were fatal mistakes on two vital points. The ruin of the Commonwealth has been the consequence. Mr. Clay in his compromises seems to have acted more the part of a dextrous arbiter between contending parties than of a far sighted Statesman provident of the Country's welfare.

The distinguished Statesman of South Carolina was not a pleasing speaker. He was exceedingly angular in phrase as he was in figure. His manner was abrupt. His sentences were often left incomplete. He cut them short in the heat and hurry of his utterance. His ideas appeared to outrun his words and to leave them limping in the rear. His delivery was stiff and without grace, but it was impressive from its intense and eager earnestness. There was a glare, a fire, in his eye, the fire of a soul that seemed to burn within him. It fascinated the beholder and riveted his gaze. Mr. Calhoun's argument was always vigorous, subtle and clear. In all his refinements you understood him perfectly and with ease. He was never muddy or confused. He was a powerful and skillful debater, not a declaimer or rhetorician. The arts of the rhetorician, he seemed to despise. His mode of speaking suited important subjects only. On small occasions, in reply to a complimentary toast at a dinner for example he was the least felicitous of politicians or men. Yet his conversation was attractive in the

highest degree. But his conversation was always a disquisition. He appeared to talk his best, as Dr. Johnson advises every body to do, at all times, and his conversation had about it the earnestness and attraction of a set speech from an able speaker on interesting topics. He appeared to be always thoroughly convinced of the truth of what he said whether in the parlour or the senate, and to believe ourselves is the only efficacious art to make others believe.

The speaking of Mr. Webster, on common occasions, was heavy and uninteresting. But when roused by a subject worthy of his great intellect, he poured forth magnificent sentences of perfect English, so round, clear, vigorous and musical as none could equal or imitate. There were great dignity in his figure and face. His manner and appearance were senatorial. His voice deep and sonorous. His action stately and composed. He was a great power, "a steam engine in pantaloons", as Sydney Smith describes him. Yet he left on the hearer's mind the impression that he was a mighty partisan fighting a battle with vast skill and power but without caring very greatly about the cause which he was defending, ready if interest required him, to carry his arms to the opposite camp. He was a staunch advocate of commerce against manufactures. In a short time, he was a vehement promoter of manufactures against commerce. He took up a cause as a lawyer takes a case. He tasked all his powers to defend it and left the issue to fortune without anxious inquiry or care. On one occasion only he seemed to be deeply in earnest—when he urged the democratic Autocrat to make war on South Carolina.

The speech of Mr. Binney was listened to with unbroken attention. It is the only speech I ever heard in the house of Representatives of which this could be said except the speech of Mr. McDuffie on the same occasion. To every other on whatever topic a partial attention only was ever paid. Mr. Binney had the air rather of counsel speaking from his brief than of a Statesman or a politician discussing a party or political measure. His speech was a purely constitutional or legal argument and nothing more. It was not imbued with any portion of the ardour or vehemence that marked all others in the discussion. He seemed to me to be and to feel that he was out of his place. He laboured under the disadvantage too of being regarded, or represented by his opponents, as an advocate sent to Congress by the bank interest to make a plea in its behalf. The charge was false, but it was none the less believed and circulated on that account.

Mr. McDuffie's speech was the great speech of the House. He was always a favourite speaker. He was now the idol of the bank party. Its adherents overwhelmed him with attentions. He was not only the champion of the bank but had wrongs of his State to avenge on the President. He exhausted all his stores of invective on the man who had dared to

threaten South Carolina. He ransacked history to find a parallel for the tyranny of Andrew Jackson and searched all history in vain. His delivery was as fervid as his language. He raged over the subject like an angry lion. His heart, soul, and whole strength seemed consumed by the fierce desire to annihilate the enemy of the Country's prosperity and the foe of his native State.

Among the men who took a prominent part in the Session of 1833 Mr. Benton may be mentioned not for any superiority in intellect or knowledge but for preeminence in violence, insolence, audacity, and assumption. He had been many years before at feud with Jackson and had inflicted on his antagonist a wound that was never thoroughly cured. He was now the greatest admirer and most devoted adherent of the President. Never was there military chieftain in civil authority better suited with lieutenant. They were alike furious against opponents and unscrupulous in reaching their ends. It was Benton chiefly who carried on the war for four months in defence of Jackson against the coalition of Clay, Webster, and Calhoun. It was Benton who devised the expunging resolution and urged it for three years with the pertinacity of a blood hound. His mode of speaking was in keeping with his character. He was loud, boisterous, arrogant, contemptuous, and insulting. He roared and paced to and fro as he spoke, like a caged tiger. He discussed a question before the Senate as he would have conducted a street fight. His single purpose seemed to be to knock down and trample on his opponent. His book bears ample evidence of his character. He sees nothing in his adversaries but sinister motives and never views the success of a measure except as a party victory. His volumes of reminiscences betray inordinate vanity on every page. Yet the vanity is refreshing. It is the least repulsive feature in his character. There is something redeeming in it. It serves to vindicate his claim to be of kin with ordinary mortals. Mr. Benton was accustomed to boast that he never sought official station, that he had been offered cabinet appointments and rejected them all. Yet he certainly made every effort in his power to be placed over Taylor and Scott as commander in chief in the Mexican war. It is not easy to say what his visions of the future may have been had he succeeded in his wish. He believed that it was not military men like Caesar or Napoleon, who were the destroyers of a Nation's liberties. They find freedom already prostrated by the arts of politicians. They only reconstruct in a new form the order overturned by demagogues. Mr. Benton regarded the liberties of the American people as strangled by the intrigues of Presidential conventions controlled by corrupt party leaders. The right of the people to elect a president was gone. The American Republic was in the condition of Rome in the time of Caesar. The forms only remained. Mr. Benton asked to be placed in Caesar's

position; might he not dream dreams of playing Caesar's part? He could not have imitated the Roman in generosity or in magnanimity, in genius as a warrior or Statesman, but in many things he may have surpassed his model—in insolence, vindictiveness and a gross, vulgar, ambition.

These fierce debates were sometimes interrupted by solemn events. One of these was the sudden death of Judge Boulden of Virginia. It became the duty of Boulden as successor of John Randolph in the Roanoke district to announce the death of the distinguished orator with the customary eulogies. The announcement had been delayed. The delay produced censure. The Virginians murmured. Boulden was mortified and excited. At last the day came when he was prepared for his task. The floor was conceded to him. The galleries were crowded. Mrs. Boulden was present with many of her friends. The successor of Randolph began a sentence of apology, hesitated, bent over the desk behind which he was speaking, lower and lower, fell on it at last with his arms extended and was dead in a moment. Business was suspended. The house adjourned. The next day Mr. Rives of the Senate did for Judge Boulden what the judge had been about to do for John Randolph. The Senator announced the death of his friend with great feeling. He quoted a pathetic passage from Burke saying, "What shadows we are and what shadows we pursue." His hearers listened with emotion, attended the funeral with solemn hearts and faces, and the next day carried on the renewed din of wordy war as if nothing had happened to interrupt it.

Another death yet more lamentable in some respects startled the members of Congress not long afterwards. On the first of April, 1834, Genl. Blair a representative from South Carolina shot himself through the head and died immediately. He was in a bed room with Murphy of Alabama, opened a bureau suddenly, took a pistol from a drawer and discharged it before his companion sitting near him was aware of his intention. He was a man of great size, strength and courage, a match, it was said, in a fray for seven ordinary men. He enabled one to realize the possibility of those exploits which we read of when one man completely armed was able to put to flight troops of half-armed and disorderly soldiers, when even the sight and shout of a hero could stop and turn the tide of battle.

The South Carolina delegation lost another of its members in a short time. Warren R. Davis was a man of society, of accomplished manners, ready wit and pleasant humour. He was a general favourite at home and abroad. His wit never wounded. It was like that which is ascribed to Sydney Smith. Davis' friends might have said to him as was said to the canon of St. Paul's—"You have been laughing at us for years and yet nothing you have said has ever wounded or offended us." His mind had a turn for poetry and might have excelled in that kind of composition which

is called verses of Society if he could have found time to cultivate the talent. But this he was rarely able to do. One song of his writing was popular for a time in Washington. The subject was the wife of Mr. Johnson, of Louisiana, a lady of great beauty and attractive manners. The song is an imitation of *Roy's Wife*.

I give the song as it will be new and may be acceptable to many of my readers:

"Her voice was softer sweeter far
Than winds o'er beds of violets blowing,
And bright her eye as Evening's Star
In Westward skies at twilight glowing."

The life of a member of Congress is not without attractions. He goes to Washington with his county experiences and is amazed to find how important a man he has become. Great is the deference shown him in various quarters. Pages and door keepers bow down before him and do his errands. He is a power in the city. He is the dispenser of the public money not only to shops and boarding houses, but to the body corporate. It depends on his vote whether the city debts are paid, its streets and avenues improved, its public grounds enclosed and planted. His power commands respect. Society is open to him. He is no longer the man he was in his native village. He is small divinity with his altars and offerers of incense. Yet there are some troubles. He has masters at home who exact his services sometimes without much reason. He is required to do many things each of which is impossible. Fifty constituents want an office. There is but one to give. The successful applicant never falls into the weakness of supposing that he has received a favour; you have done your duty only and given the office to the most deserving in giving it to him. The disappointed forty nine become grumblers, perhaps enemies. Every one of them can demonstrate that his claim to the appointment is better than the man's who received it. He has been treated unjustly and the next election gives him the opportunity for revenge. The ministers of crowned heads are not alone in their experience. The servants of king Demos are as severely tried as those of other princes. Then too there are accounts to be settled for constituents at the various departments and claims to be established, and patent rights to be secured, and wearisome speeches to be heard, day after day and month after month, and exhibitions to be witnessed of selfishness, petty vanity, vulgar ambition, and mean subserviency to party. With all its attractions the member's seat becomes at times a seat of thorns. He is sometimes disgusted and sometimes annoyed with his honours. Yet he adheres to them with tenacity. I was one day ascending the long flight of steps on the west side of the capitol with a South-

ern member. We paused for a moment to take breath. As we moved on again he remarked—"This being a member of Congress is not so great a thing as it is commonly thought to be." My good friend went home and at the end of his term moved Heaven and earth to be sent back to his seat again. The passion for public life like the taste for narcotics is not easily subdued when once acquired. The feeder from the public crib is a lotos-eater not to be weaned from his dainties without difficulty.

Independent of its attractions for a public man Washington is a pleasant place of residence. It is common to condemn its climate, but its climate is not worse than that of Baltimore or Philadelphia. It is not hotter in Summer and not so cold in winter. The situation is fine. The scenery of the Potomac is beautiful, the public grounds are pleasant, the general Society is agreeable and various. You see everybody. Travellers from abroad find their way there. The city is visited by all the distinguished men of the Country. The local society is refined and easy of access. There is less conventional form than any where else. The city has the advantage of an extensive library and good market furnishing supplies amply for mind and body. Its streets are spacious. The sneers on its magnificent distances have little weight with those who are not disposed to admire the closely packed blocks of houses in commercial-cities with their narrow streets and filthy lanes. I would prefer Washington as a residence to the best of them. The transient society at the time of which I speak was unusually brilliant. Miss Martineau was perhaps the most celebrated foreign contribution and Miss Walton, now Madame Le Vert, the brightest of our home productions. Miss Martineau's charms were intellectual only. She was plain in figure and face and so deaf as to require an ear trumpet in conversing. It was a serious undertaking to talk with her in a room full of company. You took a seat at her side. She placed in your hand the trumpet-formed end of a long flexible tube worn round her neck in the form of a boa. You spoke into one end of the tube and she applied the other to her ear with an expression of attentive expectation. It was a solemn sort of proceeding. The company looked on in silence, curious to know what you would say to the female philosopher and prepared to criticise your attempts at entertaining her. There was this comfort in the adventure, the critics were criticised in their turn. The other celebrity of the season, Miss Walton, was not known then as she has since been by her literary works. Her attractions were grace, beauty and fascinating manners. She was universally popular. I called with General Campbell of South Carolina to offer my homage with the rest of the world to the reigning divinity of the season. Her rooms were crowded with visitors. It was like the levee of a President's lady or the salon of a Parisian Queen of Society. The visitor was introduced, exchanged a word or two with the lady and made way for the others. A

week or more afterwards I met Miss Walton and she immediately addressed me by name. I expressed my surprise that in the multitude introduced to her, day after day, she could be so prompt in remembering. She replied that she never forgot a name or face. It is said of an ancient king that he never failed to remember any one of his numerous soldiers. The politicians of Rome cultivated the art of recalling the names and faces of the people and employed expert trainers to improve their skill and prompt their memory. Miss Walton's dexterity may have been the result of similar care. If the faculty of recollecting readily is important to the General and politician it is not less so to the belle. It contributes as much to social as to military or civil victories. One feels it to be a delicate flattery to be remembered at once. Our subtle self love imputes it to some merit of our own. Even when made aware that we are no more fortunate than the rest of the world, we find that the charm is not entirely lost. I have been the lady's admirer for life although I have never since had the honour of seeing her.

But time sweeps on and neither ladies nor members of Congress are exempt from its changes. Miss Martineau, her books and her boa are almost forgotten. Miss Walton ranks among elderly married ladies with children, I hope, as pretty and attractive as she was herself. I have long since been a stranger to Congressional life. It ended with me in March 3rd. 1837. I saw Mr. Van Buren inaugurated on the 4th of March, a bright, beautiful but very cold day. We looked on with no congratulations at the success of the New York magician. Jackson went out of power with undiminished popularity. He had trampled upon all his enemies. He had transferred the purple to his favourite adherent. On his last day of rule, in a laboured farewell address in imitation of Washington, he congratulated the Country on its boundless prosperity and above all on its flourishing finances. It had all been the work of his hands. He had saved the people from the machinations of Biddle and the bank. He had placed their money in other and more honest keeping. The State banks were faithful and secure. Before the end of the year the boasted financial system was a wreck. The State banks stopt payment. Commercial ruin pervaded the Country and the Spring of unexampled promise ended in an autumn of universal disaster. I dont know how the veteran of the Hermitage explained the catastrophe. "Nick Biddle" without doubt was in some way the cause of the ruin. The wand of the "little Magician" had not been potent enough to controul the enemy. The result would have been different if the Master Spirit had continued to preside over the fortunes of the Republic.

The change of administration brought about many other changes. Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Clay, after fighting in the same ranks, were foes again as

I have said already. Mr. Van Buren from being a object of scorn and ridicule to South Carolina became her favourite candidate for the Presidency. He had been painted as an unprincipled and crafty politician with no faculty but a fox's cunning, and in four years he received the vote of the State for the Chief Magistracy. Was this the result of the New Yorker's astuteness? He perceived that the scheme of the independent treasury would divide his enemies; he suggested the scheme and divided them accordingly. The coalition was broken up and new combinations followed. But with all the changes and party alliances, the open enmity and hollow truces, with all their toils, schemes and speeches, no one of the great triumvirate in talent came any nearer to the coveted prize. The White House was tabooed to Clay, Webster and Calhoun. It was open to Polk, Pierce and Taylor.

According to the theory of republics, the highest places in the Commonwealth are the rewards of the most distinguished virtue and ability. It was so at first in our practice. But now the most exalted station is the prize of the man who is most plastic in the hands of political managers and demagogues. How could the government go on when its forms only were left, when cupidity took the place of public spirit, when greediness for office and emolument became the sole principle of action with politicians of all parties, when members of Congress hungered after petty appointments, consulships in obscure places, clerkships in Washington, the merest old clothes of executive patronage. The rabble had come to rule. The Republic was at an end. This has been the substantial cause of the Country's ruin. The reasons usually assigned were themselves effects not causes. If the right men had continued to govern there could have been no tariffs to promote monopolies and no improper interference with the institutions of the States.

(To be continued)

LETTERS AND WILL OF ROBERT PRINGLE (1702-1776)

Edited by MARY PRINGLE FENHAGEN

(Continued from April)

Presumably Robert Pringle sailed from England sometime in November 1749 and arrived about the end of that year in Carolina. On April 16, 1751, he was married⁴⁷ to Judith Mayrant Bull (widow of Stephen Bull of Newberry⁴⁸), who had one son, William Bull,⁴⁹ at the time of her marriage to Robert Pringle. Robert Pringle had three children, John Julius Pringle, Robert Pringle, who married and left numerous children, and one daughter, Elizabeth Mayrant Pringle who married William Freeman⁵⁰ but left no issue. These children he had funds enough to educate and leave with a good start in life. From this time on, more mention is made of Robert Pringle taking part in public affairs.⁵¹ He was active in the establishment of St. Michael's Church, the first church warden there, and recorded in his Bible that "on Feb. 1st, 1761 Divine Service was performed for the first time in the new Church of St. Michael's and all my family went to Church and took possession of my Pew there No. 29."^{51a} In 1760 he was appointed Assistant Justice of the Court of Common Pleas where he served until 1769.⁵²

The last letter we have of Judge Robert Pringle's is to his nephew Robert Pringle (1743-Dec. 1793)⁵³ who had acceded to the properties in Scotland on the death in June 1761,⁵⁴ of his father, Thomas.

⁴⁷ *St. Philip's Register: SCHGM*, XXII, 28.

⁴⁸ Born Mch 18, 1707, died Feb. 1750, married Judith Mayrant May 2, 1747. *SCHGM*, I, 80, 81; XXVII, 82, 83.

⁴⁹ Born June 4, 1748. *Ibid.*, XXII, 30, 26, 27, 25.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, XVIII, 38.

⁵¹ Justice in the commission of peace, 1756, in both Berkeley and Craven Counties. *SCHGM*, XX, 73.

^{51a} Frederick Daleho, *Historical Account of the Protestant Episcopal Church in South Carolina*, (Charleston, 1820) p. 183; *SCHGM*, XXII, 30.

⁵² For an interesting sketch of Robert Pringle, Assistant Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and a charge delivered by him to the grand jury, October 16, 1769, see John Belton O'Neall, *Bench and Bar of South Carolina* (Charleston, 1859), I, 392-398.

⁵³ "Robert Pringle went early into the army as a lieutenant in the 10th Regiment, but on the peace taking place in 1763 after the Seven Years War, he was put on half pay, and never served again, his great objection to being placed on full pay which he declined, was in consequence of the Revolutionary war with America breaking out, disapproving of the British Government embarking in that war." *MS Letter #1*.

⁵⁴ *R. of P.*, p. 86.

To: Robert Pringle of Symington,⁵⁵ Balfous Coffee House, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Charlestown, S. Ca. March 4, 1772

Dear Loving Nephew—

After not being favoured by any letter from you for these (10) years past, I have at last the pleasure of yours from Coats⁵⁶ Hall of the 3rd of October by Capt. Alexander from Leith, which was very agreeable to me, after so long silence and duly remark the contents—

I observe that you have disposed of your farm of Fernihirst⁵⁷ for £ 2400 Sterling by which I imagine that lands increase considerably in value in those parts of the Country—The most part of which sum you intend to invest in Houses in the City of Edinburgh: and I doubt not you will find your account in said purchase as in Edinburgh as I am informed increases fast in trade and the number of inhabitants and in which you will still have a real and permanent estate and I doubt not you will find it well worth your while to go on improving your farm of Symington, which has a pretty situation and is but a small distance from Edinburgh—

I have lately been favoured with a letter from Exeter (Andrew Pringle) by which I had the pleasure to be informed of your mother⁵⁸ and sister together with my brother being there all in good health—Your two cousins (I mean my two sons) John and Robert are both very well, and my son John is lately returned here from the college of Philadelphia⁵⁹ where he has been for some years and took his degree as Bachelor of Arts and now studies the Law here with Mr. John Rutledge⁶⁰ one of the most Eminent in his profession of the law in this Province, and as for your namesake, Cousin Robert, he has lately gone to live and studies Physick with Doctor Lionel

⁵⁵ Original letter owned by Ashmead F. Pringle.

⁵⁶ "Coatshall is a small villa about a mile to the west of Edinburgh where my father [Robert Pringle, 1743-1793] and grandfather [Thomas Pringle, born before 1698-1761] had resided for several years, but having little or no ground about it, I sold it soon after going into the army upwards of 50 years ago." *MS Letter from Major-General John Pringle of Edinburgh to William Alston Pringle of Charleston, (hereinafter cited as MS Letter #2), dated June 23, 1847; original owned by Ashmead F. Pringle. Major-General John Pringle had entered the army in March 1794. R. of P., p. 86.*

⁵⁷ Robert Pringle of Symington (1743-1793) feued to George Innes, Esq., of Stow, Fernihirst, in 1771. *Ibid.*, pp. 86, 85. Fernihirst was about 4 miles from Symington. *MS Letter #2.*

⁵⁸ Janet Blair Pringle died in March 1790 at Bristol Hot Wells. *R. of P.*, p. 86.

⁵⁹ Contributors to the College of Philadelphia, April, 1772, contained the name of Robert Pringle for £39, Carolina Currency. *SCHGM*, XLV, 191.

⁶⁰ See O'Neill, *Bench and Bar of South Carolina*, pp. 17-27.

Chalmer⁶¹ likewise one of the most popular and skilled with the profession of Physick in this Province, and probably he may have the pleasure of paying his respects to you in Edinburgh in four or five years hence as I intend his going to Edinburgh⁶² to study and improve himself there under the Eminent Doctor Monro.⁶³ I shall always be very glad to have the pleasure of hearing from you as often as it suits your conveniences by Vessels that use this trade from Leith-Dunbar and Co. and in particular Capt. Hercules Augers Commander of the ship Sallie of Barrow-in Furness with whom I have been well established for some years, who comes here and has for some years past arrived here annually about the month of November.—He knows me very well and will be very careful of any letters directed for me, and he is a very worthy honest and good sort of man. My wife and my son-in-law Mr. Wm. Bull Jr.^{63a} and your three cousins, John, Robert and Bessey, join me in our kind love and compliments to you and I am Dear loving Nephew—your affectionate uncle and very Humble servant.

Robert Pringle

To: John Pringle, Esq.⁶⁴ Carolina Coffee House, Birch Lane,⁶⁵ London.
Chas. Town August 13th 1776

My Dear Brother—

Altho' it is probable that this may miscarry, I will not let slip the chance of getting a few lines to you. I have wrote five or six letters to you, since last February,⁶⁶ acquainting you of the death of our poor Father,⁶⁷ and in

⁶¹ Very little has been published about this distinguished doctor. See McCrady, *Roy. Gov.*, p. 415, and *Education in South Carolina* (Charleston, 1883) p. 45; *SCHGM*, XXX, 34.

⁶² Robert Pringle is listed as one who got his degree in medicine from the University of Edinburgh between 1768 and 1778. *Roy. Gov.*, p. 420. While Robert Pringle was studying medicine in Edinburgh about 1776 he treated [Major-General] John Pringle, then two years old, for small pox. *MS Letter #1*.

⁶³ Alex. Monro (1733-1817) was appointed professor of anatomy and surgery at the Univ. of Edinburgh on July 12, 1755 and took his M.D. degree on Oct. 17, 1755. He studied for a year in Germany and then became a fellow at the College of Physicians in Edinburgh. He gave a full course of lectures every year from 1759 to 1800, besides published many scientific works. *Dictionary of National Biography*, (London, 1894).

^{63a} William Bull was his step-son. See notes 48 and 49, *supra*.

⁶⁴ Letter to Robert Pringle's older son John Julius Pringle, who at this time was enrolled as a student at the Middle Temple, London, from his half-brother William Bull. Original of this letter is at the Public Record Office, Colonial Office papers, London. Class 5; p. 122. Photoduplicate was obtained from the Library of Congress.

⁶⁵ Description of the Carolina Coffee House. *SCHGM*, XXXI, 26, note 1.

⁶⁶ Letter from Henry Laurens to his son John Laurens, December 1774, says that he returned "to this great empty House in order to write as much as I can by Capt. White who will sail for England tomorrow perhaps my papers may be put into the hands of your old school fellow Mr. Pringle whose Papa called in my absence and left

those letters, I have enclosed you copies of the only Bill of Exchange, which I possibly could get, drawn by Mr. Dorsius,⁶⁸ more to oblige me, than on account of the Premium, tho' it was high. By one letter I also enclosed you a draught from Alex. Rose⁶⁹ for fifty pounds, sterling, which I hope you have received.

All your friends are now well and in high spirits, having on the 28th of June, not only repelled a formidable Land Force, but after having sustained one of the heaviest and most incessant cannonades against a Fort which we have lately built on Sullivan's Island from the enemy's fleet, which consisted of the Bristol of 50 guns (on Board which was Sr. P. Parker)⁷⁰ the Experiment of 50 guns, the Acteon, the Syren, the Active, frigates, and the Sphynx of 20 guns, and the same time, the Thunder Bomb, covered by the Friendship, an armed vessel of 26 guns, of different weight of metal, threw above 80 shells at the Fort, which happily did little damage. The cannonade begun about 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and lasted till past 10 at night. In the Fort there was only Col. Moultrie with about 380 men. Our loss consisted of about 12 men killed and 23 wounded. The enemy's loss is near 300 men killed and wounded. The Bristol was a mere wreck. She had her main and mizen mast shot away; among the enemy's killed is the Captains of the two Line of Battle Ships and other officers. Sir Peter himself was wounded.⁷¹ They behaved with great gallantry. Gen. Lee,⁷²

notice that his Son was going to London in Capt. White's Vessel with offers of his service. . . . Mr. Pringle and his son have called on me again, I have ventured to assure the young gentleman that you will wait on him immediately upon his arrival in London you know I have a regard for his Father and I believe you Love the Son—I mean we regard both." *Ibid.*, IV, 266, 267. "Last Thursday embarked, in the Ship Carolina-Packet, Capt. White, for London, Mr. John Pringle, one of the sons of Robert Pringle". *S. C. Gazette*, Dec. 19, 1774.

⁶⁷ Henry Laurens to his son, John Laurens, Jan. 8, 1776: "Perhaps nobody may by this chance opportunity write to the Messrs. Pringle your acquaintance, it may be friendly to apprise them that their Father is dangerously ill—they know he is not a young man." Robert Pringle died Jan. 13, 1776. *SCHGM*, V, 138; XXII, 25.

⁶⁸ Joseph Dorsius was a prisoner of the British and sent on board a prison ship, May 17, 1781. McCrady, *South Carolina in the Revolution, 1780-1783* (New York, 1902), p. 358.

⁶⁹ Alex. Rose was a merchant in Charleston in 1782. His name was on the confiscation list and he was ordered out of Charleston by the British, April 28, 1782. *SCHGM*, XVII, 8, 10, note 40.

⁷⁰ Sir Peter Parker (1721-1811), Admiral of the Fleet, was appointed to head a small squadron going out to America in 1775. He reached Cape Fear May 1776. In spite of this defeat he had a successful career in the navy and also has been credited with being the one who discovered and encouraged Nelson in his career.

⁷¹ McCrady states that the *Acteon*, *Syren*, and *Active* had 28 guns, and the *Friendship* 22 guns. He states that the British loss was over 200 men and that the American wounded were 25 men. The two British captains killed were John Morris of the

who was at one time in the Fort, says he never in the whole course of his military service (and few officers have seen as much) has seen or heard so dreadful a cannonade. And the behavior of Col. Moultrie⁷³ and the whole Garrison would have done honor to the best troops in the world. The continental congress have sent their thanks to Col. Moultrie who commanded the garrison, and to all the men and officers, also to Col. Thompson,⁷⁴ who commanded an advanced post on the east end of Sullivan's Island, opposite where the British troops were entrenched on Long Island. The two camps were not above 400 yds. asunder. The enemy had thrown up a battery, opposite an advanced post, where we had also a small one, of one 18 pounder, 3 field pieces. While the Fort was attacked by the ships, they began a smart fire upon our troops and several of their shells fell in our lines, without killing a single man. The British Army which was formed into three Brigades under the command of the Generals Clinton, Cornwallis, and Vaughan,⁷⁵ were to have landed and attacked the Fort in reverse. One Brigade either had embarked in their flat bottom boats or were about it, when they received such a fire from our troops as made them think it would be out of their power to get Thompson's consent to land, without which their Army would have pretty well melted down, by the time they would have got to the Fort. Gen. Lee had a fine body of men on the main to have supported them if it had been necessary. Lee says, as he thought our troops raw, it would be necessary to go over in order to encourage them; but he might have saved himself the trouble, he found the men and officers cool and intrepid in the highest degree. The very wounded some with arms and legs shot off, bravely refusing to go out of the action to the hospital, till they had exhorted their comrades to do their duty with coolness

Bristol and Alexander Scott of the *Experiment*. Sir Peter Parker was wounded twice but stayed at his post. Edward McCrady, *History of South Carolina in the Revolution*, 1775-1780 (hereinafter cited as McCrady's *Rev.* I), (New York, 1901), pp. 149-160.

⁷² Charles Lee (1731-Oct. 2, 1782), born in England and commissioned in the 44th Reg. as a lieutenant, had accompanied Braddock on his expedition into western Pennsylvania. He took up lands in Berkeley Ct., Va., and in 1776 Congress sent him south to assist in the defence of Charleston, where he arrived on June 4th. Gov. Rutledge put the S. C. troops under his command, but Lee felt that defence of Sullivan's Island was impossible and busied himself making ready for the retreat of Moultrie's men. After Moultrie's successful defense of his fort, however, Lee gave him full credit in his dispatches, for the victory.

⁷³ William Moultrie (Nov. 23, Dec. 4, 1730-Sept. 27, 1805).

⁷⁴ William Thompson, lieut. col. of the 3rd Regiment (rangers recruited in the upper country), had about 300 men under him. McCrady's *Rev.*, I, 15, 144-146, 152, 153.

⁷⁵ The *Dictionary of National Biography* does not mention these English generals as having taken part in this engagement.

and steadiness;⁷⁶ this you may be assured is a literal fact. In the beginning of the action the flag staff was shot away and the colors fell over the walls of the fort, which a sergeant observing jumped over the walls, tho' the enemy's shot was showering about him, he fixed the colours on a sponge staff, and stuck it upon one of the merlons, the garrison at the same time giving three cheers.⁷⁷ About half-past ten o'clock at night, the British ships of War cut their cables and left their anchors, quietly going off without piping or whistling. The *Acteon*, a fine new frigate, getting aground under command of the Fort guns, the enemy were obliged to burn her. The day after the action, our people picked up more shot of every kind, from 24 pounders down to the lowest size, than we fired⁷⁸ and since which have had great quantities of powder arrived. We fired about 960 18 and 24 pounders, about 70 of which the British had in her hulls. Our fire was directed chiefly against the 50 gun ships. We had at that time a very small store of powder, which determined Moultrie to fire, only when sure, making use of the very few intervals when the shipping were a little clear of smoke.

Lord Dunmore⁷⁹ has had a severe drubbing in Virginia; his fleet suffering so much from 2 little batteries of ours, they were obliged to go off and leave 7 or 800 £ sterling worth of anchors and cables.

Our armed vessels have taken many transports at the North, five of them about 8 or 900 of Frazer's highlanders. Lieut. Col. Campbell is among the officers taken.⁸⁰ He expresses much gratitude at the generous treatment he has received of the Americans. The Major of Campbell's Battalion was killed in the action between the transports and our armed vessel who took them. He was buried in Boston with full military honors. I forgot to mention that after the enemy's troops had embarked from Long Island, and Just before they sailed, a Brig of theirs got aground, which as soon as one of our armed vessels, perceived she immediately took her and brought 50 highlanders up to town, who were aboard her.

⁷⁶ Sergeant McDaniel (?), dying, called out "Fight on, my brave boys; don't let liberty expire with me to-day." McCrady's *Rev.* I, 159.

⁷⁷ Sergeant Jasper was signaled out by Gov. Rutledge, who on July 4th presented him with his (Rutledge's) sword.

⁷⁸ McCrady does not mention this bit of thrift.

⁷⁹ John Murray, 4th Earl of Dunmore, (1732-1809), was appointed governor of New York in 1770, and subsequently of Virginia. He returned to England soon after this skirmish with the Virginians, in July 1776.

⁸⁰ Sir Archibald Campbell (1739-1791) was lieut. col. of the 2nd battalion in a regiment of Highlanders raised by Simon Frazer in 1775. They were on ships that landed in Boston when it was in the hands of the Americans. Campbell married in 1779 Amelia, daughter of Allan Ramsay, the portrait painter. In a letter to his mother dated April 15, 1751, Peter Manigault speaks most favorably of the work of Ramsay, who has just finished young Manigault's portrait. *SCHGM*, XXXI, 278.

We have just now account from the back country of the Cherokees [who] at the instigation of that infamous scoundrel, J. Stewart⁸¹ had committed hostilities upon some of our people. Major Williamson⁸² with a body of men immediately marched up against them. He has had several skirmishes in his way into the country, in one of which poor Salvador, who went as a volunteer was killed and scalped.⁸³ The major is now ravaging their country. He has burned four towns already and destroyed a great quantity of corn. You may judge how severely this nation will be trounced, if not totally destroyed, as a nation. There are three large bodies of men, one from this province, another from North Carolina, and a third from Virginia. They will not be allowed peace upon any terms, unless they deliver up all Stewarts emissaries⁸⁴ that are among them, and all subjected.

We are making great preparations here in case of a visit in the winter. If Howe should be beat at New York, I suppose he and his myrmidons will either go to Virginia, or come here. I hope we [are] invincible to anything that will come against us.

We have some thoughts of sending a couple of thousand men to ravage East Florida and cut off the communication between Augustine and the country.

You see how this province has exerted itself, altho' we have had some criminal villains amongst us, we have taken such steps as to keep them in good order.

Independence is declared throughout the 13 united States of America. I suppose it will not be long before you see the declaration of the Congress, as there are vessels fitting out to trade with foreign nations, and I imagine before now Ambassadors are sent to treat of foreign alliances. All the troops both foreign and domestic that Great Britain, can send, will [not] be able to hurt America. She bids degenerate Britain defiance.

⁸¹ John Stuart (c. 1700-Mch. 25, 1779), a native of Scotland who emigrated about 1748, was superintendent of Indian affairs for the Southern District. He built himself a beautiful house, corner of Tradd and Orange street, in 1772, and fled from Charleston, May 26, 1775. Smith, *Dwelling Houses of Charleston*, pp. 239-247; SCHGM, XLVI, 61, 62; XLVII, 54, 190-193.

⁸² Andrew Williamson, reputedly illiterate, but highly intelligent and a skilled woodsman, came to America as a young child. He was commissioned a lieutenant on Sept. 22, 1760, served in James Grant's expedition against the Cherokees, and lead a second expedition against them in 1776. *Dictionary of American Biography*.

⁸³ Francis Salvador of Corn-acre Creek in Ninety-six Dist., was a member of the Provincial Congress and one of the few from the Up Country who had taken an active part in its proceedings. McCrady's *Rev.* I, 192, 194, 196.

⁸⁴ Stuart, who was in Florida, employed as emissaries to the Cherokees in the northwestern part of South Carolina, Alexander Cameron, his Indian agent, Henry Stuart, his brother, and Moses Kirkland. *Ibid.*, p. 187.

I am quite tired, and in a great hurry, and question if you will not be as tired of this scrawl, before you get so far. Pray remember me affectionately to Bob,⁸⁵ this is partly intended to him.

I am your most affec. Brother

William Bull, junior.

P.S. When Administration gets an account of the action of Sullivan's Island, they will be devilishly at a loss, how to dress it up for the public. The day after it, the Rainbow, sloop of war, was sent to Great Britain with the account. Be assured they had near 300 killed and wounded in the action, we took 50 highlanders, and have had about 50 deserters, from the navy and army, who say that if the army had been encamped on the main one half at least would have deserted, but it was as difficult for them to make their escape, as it was for the seamen.

The deserters from the navy have brought us up several fine barges. And the whole fleet and army have been gone about two or three weeks. With every lye the Ministry and their Tools can invent upon this occasion, it must make greatly against them.

We have sent one of our armed vessel's of eighteen guns yesterday, to cruise off Augustine, in hopes of falling in with two ships expected from London there with military stores and dry goods.

Yours affectionately

W. B.

(Red)

(wax)

(seal)

The Will of Robert Pringle

SOUTH CAROLINA

In the name of God Amen. I Robert Pringle of Charleston in the province of South Carolina Esq. Being (Blessed be God) of Sound and disposing mind and memory, as well as in good Bodily Health, Do hereby make, publish and Declare This my Last Will and Testament (all written with my own Hand) Principally being Truely and Heartily sorry for all my sins and most humbly Imploring the Pardon and forgiveness of them, I commend my Immortal Soul, into the Hands of Almighty God who gave it, In and through the Merits of Jesus Christ my Blessed Saviour and Redeemer, in whose Righteousness, I Rely for Pardon of my Sins and for Eternal Life and Salvation, and at death I comitt my Body to the Earth, to be interred

⁸⁵ Robert Pringle was studying medicine in Edinburgh at this time. He returned home bringing £30 worth of medicines as well as linen and gowns for his mother and sister, shortly after writing his brother, John Pringle, a letter on the eve of sailing from Nantes, July 28, 1778. *MS.* Letter owned by Ashmead F. Pringle.

In a Christian but not very expensive manner, at the Discretion of my Executors hereinafter named.

And as to my worldly estate and all such lands and Tenements, Goods and Chattles, as it hath pleased God to Bestow upon me; I will appoint and order that the same, and every part and Parcell thereof Shall Soe and be disposed of as herein after particularly and Respectively As directed, that is to Say: First. I will and direct that all my Just debts and Funeral expenses shall be paid and discharged with all Convenient speed after my decease. Item Whereas I have already by Deed of Gift given to my living Daughter Elisabeth Mayrant Pringle⁸⁶ one Negroe Slave Girl named Jenny with all and Singular her future issue and increase. I do hereby ratifie and confirm to her my said Daughter Elisabeth Mayrant Pringle the Said Free Deed of gift of the said Negroe slave Jenny with all and Singular her future Issue and Increase, Item I give and bequeath to my Loving wife Judith Pringle my Household furniture, Item I give and bequeathe my Gold watch and all my silver Plate whatsoever to be divided by my executors between my Wife Judith, and my three children John, Robert and Elisabeth Mayrant Pringle equally and impartially, into four equal parts Share and Share alike.

Item All my Land Tenements and Real Estate and all the Surplusage rest and residue of my personal Estate Whatsoever and Wheresoever I give Bequeathe and Devise to be equally Shared and divided between and allotted and delivered by my executors hereinafter named or such of them as shall qualify and take upon him or themselves the Burthen and Execution of this my last Will and Testament or the Survivors or survivor of them or the Executors or administrators of such survivor until my Wife Judith Pringle and Children the said John Pringle, Robert Pringle, Jr., and Elisa. Mayrant Pringle, the share or part of her my said Wife Judith to be taken out as soon as conveniently Can be, after my said debts and funeral expenses Shall be paid or Discharged to have and to Hold thence foreward to her, her Heirs and Assigns forever. Provided always that she shall accept of and receive the same and I do hereby declare that the Said Legacy by me herein given to my Said Wife is so devised and Bequeathed unto her are meant and Intended to be in full Satisfaction and Barr of all such Dower

⁸⁶ Elizabeth Mayrant Pringle, born in her father's house, Charleston, March 29, 1757, was christened at St. Philip's Church by the Rev. Robert Smith on Jan. 25, 1758, godmothers Mrs. Mary Seaman and Miss Susannah de St. Julien, godfather James Lennox. *SCHGM*, XXII, 29. Mary, widow of William Allen, brother to Robert Pringle's first wife, became the wife of George Seaman. *Ibid.* XXIV, 18. Susannah de St. Julien was the daughter of Joseph de St. Julien and his wife, Elizabeth Mayrant, sister to Robert Pringle's second wife. *Ibid.*, XXVII, 82, 83. James Lennox, merchant, hereinafter named an executor of Robert Pringle's will, was also a substantial beneficiary of George Seaman's will. *Ibid.*, VIII, 211.

Interest or Customary Part, Share or thirds of my Real and Personal Estate which she Can or May Claim by any right Title, or Custom Whatsoever.

And in case my said Wife shall claim—Challenge or demand any Dower, Thirds Customary Part or other Share, or Interest in or out of all, or any of my Estate Real or Personal (except only Such part thereof and for such Estate and Interest as is herein devised and Bequeathed unto her) I doe hereby Will, declare and appoint that all and every the Devises, Legacies, Gifts and Bequests to her herein given devised and bequeathed Shall be Void and of none Effect and in such case I give devise and bequeath the Same in Such manner as the remaining Part of my said Lands, Tenements Real Estate and surplusage Rest and Residue of my said Personal Estate is herein after given, devised, and disposed of and the said Shares and portions of my Said children to be occupied Employed and Improved during their Respective Minorities⁸⁷ and the Income and Profitts thereof from time to time applied for their Suitable Maintenance and Education respectively as Occasion shall require and my Executors herein after named in their discretion shall See Fitt, by them my said Executors, and as they, any or either of them my said Children shall severally Come to or attain the age of Twenty One Years, or my Daughter shall be married or my Sons Shall have Issue of their Bodies Lawfully begotten respectively which shall first happen shall be taken out and delivered as aforesaid to each of my Children. To have and to Hold thence forward to him, her, or them, my said Children and Assigns for ever, and if any of them my said Children shall die in his, her or their minorities then the part of share of the deceasing child or children shall goe and be disposed of as in Such Case is provided in and by the Statutes for Distribution in each if Kin Respectively for ever as aforesaid.

Item It is my Will and I herein order and Devise for Just and Equitable reasons. That the Sum of One Hundred and Fifty Pounds Sterling money or the value thereof in lawful Money of South Carolina be paid and allowed by my Son John Pringle to his Brother Robert Pringle Jun. and also the like sum of one Hundred and Fifty Pounds Sterling money must be paid to his Sister Elisabeth Mayrant Pringle or to his or her lawful heirs. I say the said sum of Three Hundred Pounds Sterling money aforesaid must be allowed and Deducted as aforesaid by my Said Son John out of his share or part of my Estate Before or at the same time, that he is to receive his Share or Dividend or any part of my Estate herein devised and bequeathed to him and which my Executors Herein after named are to stop and Deduct from his Share of my Estate and pay to his Said Brother Robert Pringle

⁸⁷ At the time of Robert Pringle's death, John was 22, Robert 20, and Elizabeth 18 years old.

Jun. and his Sister Elisabeth Mayrant Pringle accordingly. Item I devise and bequeathe my Pew^{87a} in the Church of St. Michael (Charlestown) distinguished or marked number 29 being situated on the Corner of the South Isle next to the Parsonage Pew near to the Pulpit of said Church in the Same Manner and to the same uses and purposes as I have already Herein devised and Bequeathed my other Real and Personal Estate.

RT Pringle (LS)

Continued and Carried over

Item I do hereby nominate Constitute and Appoint my Worthy Friends John Savage, Frederick Grimke,⁸⁸ and James Lennox Esqs. All inhabitants of the Town of Charlestown Executors of this my Last Will and Testament.

Lastly I hereby revoke annul and Make Void all other Wills and Testaments whatsoever by me heretofore made and declared either by word heretofore and I doe allow of, Ratify and confirm, This and this only and no Other to be my Last Will and Testament.

In Witness whereof I the first aforesaid named Robert Pringle have to this my Said last will and Testament Sett my Hand and Seal the Fourth day of May in the Fourteenth year of his Majesty King George the Thirds Reign and in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Four

RT Pringle (LS)

Sealed Published and Declared by Robert Pringle Esqre to be and Contain his Last Will and Testament in the Presence of us who in the Testators presence in the same room, and at his request have hereunto Sett Our names Respectively as Witnesses

Mark Morris
John Zoomer
Joel Holmes

Mendm. I will, order and direct, that the House in which I reside shall be completed and finished⁸⁹ by my Exors at the charge and Expense of my Estate and I constitute and Appoint my beloved Wife Executrix and my son John, Dr. Lionel Chalmers, and Mr. Jonah Smith, Executors of my Will

^{87a} Pews in the Church of England in 1772 were selling for as high as £1900. George N. Edwards, *A History of the Independent or Congregational Church of Charleston South Carolina* (Boston, 1947), p. 30.

⁸⁸ In his journal, Robert Pringle mentions sending a present of limes and pineapples to Frederick Grimké. *SCHGM*, XXVI, 24.

John Savage married April 18, 1749, the widow of John Allen, who as Anne Scott had married Allen, April 29, 1740. John Allen was brother to Jane Allen Pringle. *St. Philip's Register*, pp. 173, 190; *SCHGM*, XXVI, 107, 108.

⁸⁹ This house, 70 Tradd St., passed to John Julius Pringle and remained in the family until 1886, when William Alston Pringle, Recorder of Charleston, sold it. Smith, *Dwelling Houses of Charleston*, pp. 104-127.

together with those therein named as such and I declare this to be a Codicil to my will January 9th 1776

RT Pringle (LS)

Signed Sealed Published and Declared by the Said Testator as a Codicil to his Will in presence of

Will Bull Junr.⁹⁰

Joel Holmes⁹¹

Stephen Mazýck⁹²

South Carolina

By William Burrows Ordinary

Personally appeared Joel Holmes one of the subscribing Witnesses to the Within Will and Codicil who being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth he was present and Saw the within named Robert Pringle Sign, seal, publish Pronounce, and declare the Same to be and Contain his last Will and Testament and also his Codicil to be part of the said Will, that he was then of Sound mind Memory and Understanding to the best of this Deponent's Knowledge and belief and that he together with Mark Morris and John Zoomer subscribed their names as Evidences to the Will and he, William Bull Junr, and Stephen Mazýck subscribed their names as Evidences to the Codicil at the request of and in the Presence of said Testators and of each other, at the same time qualified Judith Pringle Executrix to Said Will

Given Under My Hand this 12th day of September 1777

Wm. Burrows

Ordinarys Office
Charleston District
June 15th 1854

I certify that the Aforegoing pages contain a true and Correct Copy of the Last Will and Testament with Codicil annexed of Robert Pringle deceased filed and recorded in this office.

George Buist
Ordinary CD [seal]

⁹⁰ SCHGM, I, 81, 82.

⁹¹ Joel, son of Isaac and Susannah Holmes, born July 3, was baptized Sept. 15, 1736. *Register of St. Philip's Parish*. In his Journal, Robert Pringle mentions buying hams and bacon from Isaac Holmes, and gives Isaac Holmes, Sr., a note for £860 current money; also agrees with Isaac Holmes to give his son John £100 currency per annum "to live with George Inglis and I as a clerk." SCHGM, XXVI, 21, 95, 97.

⁹² Stephen Mazýck (March 1, 1746/47-Dec. 1782), unmarried, was son of Isaac Mazýck II, and his wife, Jeanne Marie, daughter of Peter de St. Julien and his wife Elizabeth Damaris LeSerrurier, hence was a cousin of Robert's wife, Judith Mayrant. *Transaction of the Huguenot Soc. of S. C.*, XXXVII, 43-62; SCHGM, XXVII, 81, 82.

MARRIAGE AND DEATH NOTICES FROM THE
GREENVILLE MOUNTAINEER OF
GREENVILLE, S. C.

Contributed by J. M. LESESNE

(Continued from April)

Married on March 27th by Rev. George Clarke, Mr. Roland J. Shelton, to Miss Elizabeth Anderson, all of Newberry District. (April 19, 1834)

Married March 27th by Rev. George Clarke, Mr. Reuben S. Check to Miss Elizabeth D. Moorman, all of Newberry District. (April 19, 1834)

Married on Tuesday last, by Rev. Wm. Hannon, Mr. James Macky to Miss Eliza Rush, daughter of Captain Matthias Rush, all of this District. (April 19, 1834)

Married on Tuesday last, by Rev. R. B. Cater, Mr. Fountain F. Beattie, to Miss Emily Edgeworth, eldest daughter of Mr. Elisha Hamlin, deceased. (April 26, 1834)

Died on 16th ult., at his residence in Union District, General Elijah Dawkins, Major in War of 1812. (May 10, 1834)

Died on the 26th ult., at her late residence in this District, Mrs. Elizabeth Blasingame, relict of General John Blasingame, age 60. (May 10, 1834)

Died on 17th ult., at residence of his father, Mr. Matthew A. Goodlett, age 41. (May 10, 1834)

Died at his residence near Abbeville Court House on 6th, Wm. Lomax, age 52. (June 28, 1834)

Married on 8th by R. Thurston, Mr. Theodore B. Thompson to Miss Maria H. Chick, eldest daughter of D. B. Chick, all of this place. (June 28, 1834)

Married on 19th by Rev. Mr. Clark, Mr. Pettus W. Chick, of Union District, to Miss Sarah E. T. Henderson of Newberry. (June 28, 1834)

Married on 19th, by Rev. S. Vandiver, Mr. Edwin Ware of Abbeville to Miss Mary, only daughter of Captain Adam Jones, of this District. (June 28, 1834)

Died on June 29th, Mr. Edgeworth R. Hamlin, age 18½ years. (July 5, 1834)

Died at residence of his brother here, on Tuesday last, Mr. John Blasin-game, age 29. (July 19, 1834)

Died here on 19th ult., David Allen, infant son of Mr. John T. Darby. (August 2, 1834)

Married on 17th, by Rev. Andrew Gramling, Lewis H. Dickie of this District, to Miss Catharine Jackson of Spartanburg. (August 2, 1834)

Married on Tuesday last, Mr. Zion Philips of this District to Miss Albadina Grey of Spartanburg. (August 9, 1834)

Died in Pickens District on 5th, Major George W. Hawkins. (August 9, 1834)

Died in this place on 1st, Benajah Dunham, only child of Captain R. Loveland, age 1½ years. (August 9, 1834)

Died on 16th, at Port Gibson, Wisconsin, Mr. James McKinzie of this District. (August 23, 1834)

Died at Flat Rock, N. C., on 16th, Mrs. Elizabeth Frances Gourdin, Consort of Dr. Theodore Gourdin. (August 30, 1834)

Married on 22nd ult., by Rev. Mr. Magee, Mr. Andrew J. Reeves of Abbeville, to Miss Elizabeth Webster. (September 6, 1834)

Died at Columbus, Ga., on 20th, Mrs. Martha Ann, Consort of Mr. Moses Jones, formerly of Greenville, age 35. (September 6, 1834)

Died in this District on 17th, Mrs. Rebecca P. Thruston, Consort of late Colonel Wm. Thruston, age 79. (September 27, 1834)

Married on 22nd ult., by Rev. Mr. Magee, Mr. Berry Clinkscales, to Miss Catharine Cox, both of Anderson District. (September 27, 1834)

Married on Thursday last, by Rev. Gibson, Mr. John Watson, Jr., to Miss Amanda F. A. Horn-Buckle, of this place. (September 27, 1834)

Married on Thursday last by Rev. Mr. Field, Mr. Lyan W. Watson to Miss Eliza Livingston, all of this District. (September 27, 1834)

Married on Tuesday last by Rev. Gibson, Major R. P. Goodlett, to Miss Lucretia, daughter of John Young, all of this District. (October 4, 1834)

Married on 5th by Rev. Barton, Mr. Thomas Stillman, to Miss Mary Ann Ward, all of this District. (October 11, 1834)

Died on 19th ult., Mrs. Navey Weaver, wife of John Weaver of this District. (November 1, 1834)

Died here on 18th, Mr. Alexander Vickers, age 71. (November 22, 1834)

Died here on Monday last, Mr. Thomas Allen. Left wife and 2 small children. (November 29, 1834)

Married on Tuesday last by Rev. Gibson, Mr. R. B. Duncan to Miss Henrietta A., second daughter of the late Alexander Sloan. (November 29, 1834)

Married on 20th, by Rev. Potter, Mr. Thomas J. Wilkinson of Greenville, to Miss Sarah R., daughter of Rev. J. Douthett of Anderson. (November 29, 1834)

Married on 27th ult., by Lewis H. Dickey, Mr. James M. Lister, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Goodwin, all of this District. (December 6, 1834)

Married on 2nd ult., by Rev. Mr. Lewers, Mr. Thomas J. Peden, to Miss Elizabeth Gray of Laurens. (December 6, 1834)

Married on 9th, by Rev. Mr. Hutchings, Theodore J. Croft, M. D. to Miss Eliza W., eldest daughter of Captain Charles W. D'Oyley. (December 13, 1834)

Married on 14th by L. Fullum, Mr. Robert Thompson to Miss Jane, daughter of Mr. Joseph Reed, all of Buncombe, N. C. (December 20, 1834)

Married at Spartanburg on 25th ult., by Rev. Landrum, Mr. Thomas J. Dunham of this town, to Miss Mary P. Folker, of the former place. (January 3, 1835)

Married on Buck Creek in Spartanburg District, on 23rd., by Rev. Drury Dobbins, Captain Drury D. Hicks, to Miss Elizabeth A., daughter of Mr. Whitney Hines. (January 3, 1835)

Married on 23rd. ult., by Rev. Boggs, Mr. Joseph P. Thompson, to Miss Nancy C., eldest daughter of Colonel Wm. Morrow, all of this District. (January 3, 1835)

Married on 1st in Pickens District, by Rev. Landrum, Dr. J. W. Lewis of this District, to Miss Maria, daughter of the late Samuel Earle, of the former District. (January 10, 1835)

Married on 6th by Rev. Rogers, Mr. George Cunningham to Miss Martha O. Moore, all of this District. (January 10, 1835)

Died at his residence in Abbeville District on 17th, Major Andrew Hamilton, age 94. Born in Augusta County, Va., he settled in Abbeville. Great Revolutionary soldier under Pickens. (January 24, 1835)

Married on 8th, by Benjamin Nelson, Mr. Wilford Cox to Miss Martha Adkins, all of Greenville District. (January 24, 1835)

Married on Thursday last by Rev. Hutchings, Mr. Alexander Vickers, to Miss Matilda Rhodes, all of this District. (January 24, 1835)

Died at his residence in this District, on 27th ult., Mr. Thomas Bridges, age 62. (February 7, 1835)

Married on 6th ult., by Brasher Henderson, Mr. Turner Thaxton, to Miss Harriet Howard, all of this District. (February 7, 1835)

Married on 27th ult., by Rev. Landrum, Mr. Thomas McCue, to Miss Jane Austin, all of this District. (February 7, 1835)

Married on 5th ult., by Rev. Hiram Roberts, Mr. Perry Meaders to Miss Elvira Ponder, all of this District. (March 7, 1835)

Died in this town on the 3rd, Mary Catharine, only child of Captain R. Loveland, age 7 months. (March 7, 1835)

Died at Lodi, in Abbeville District on 22nd ult., Mr. William Montgue, age 45. (March 14, 1835)

Married on 26th ult., by Rev. Nathan Berry, Mr. Lewis Roberts of Buncombe, to Miss Nancy, second daughter of Jacob Reece, of this District. (March 21, 1835)

Married on 12th by Rev. Jonathan Deweese, Mr. James Campbell, to Miss Margaret, eldest daughter of Wm. Bird, all of this District. (March 21, 1835)

Married on 19th ult., by Rev. Nathan Berry, Mr. Ezekiel Vincent, to Miss Jane, eldest daughter of Wm. Hiett, all of this District. (March 21, 1835)

Married on 26th ult., by Lewis H. Dickey, Mr. Furman Smith of Spartanburg, to Miss Mary Suddith of Greenville District. (April 4, 1835)

Died on 6th, at residence of his son in this District, David Dickey, age 88. A Revolutionary soldier. (April 18, 1835)

Married on 12th, by Brasher Henderson, Mr. Wm. Owens, to Miss Elizabeth Higgins, all of this District. (April 18, 1835)

Died on 20th ult., at residence near here, John Young, age 78. Fought in Revolution under Marion. Left a large family. (May 3, 1835)

Died in the Province of Texas on October 8 last, Mr. Benjamin Barton, a native of this District. (May 9, 1835)

Married at Lincolnton, N. C., on 14th, by Rev. Bennett, Dr. A. B. Crook, to Miss Sarah E., eldest daughter of Colonel John Hoke of Lincolnton. (May 23, 1835)

Died on 25th, Mrs. Theresa Green, Consort of Elisha Green, age 68. Methodist. (May 30, 1835)

Died in Anderson District, February 26th last, Mr. John Morris, age 91. Revolutionary soldier. Born in East Jersey. Resident of South Carolina for 49 years. (June 13, 1835)

Married in Fayette County, Ala., on March 31st, by Rev. Chrestman, Mr. Oliver W. Ship, to Miss Jane F., only daughter of E. W. Dumas, formerly of Greenville District. (June 13, 1835)

Died in Fayette County, Ala., on April 21st, Mrs. Elizabeth D. Dumas, wife of E. W. Dumas, formerly of Greenville District, S. C. (June 13, 1835)

Died on July 4th, Mrs. Sarah M., Consort of Dr. John Crittenden, age 38. Great Episcopalian. (July 11, 1835)

Died 8 miles below Greenville on 25th ult., Mr. Beverly L. Hawkins, age 20. (July 11, 1835)

Died on 6th, Mrs. Mourning V., Consort of Mr. J. L. Jenkins, age 20 years. (July 18, 1835)

Married on 11th, by P. Henderson, Mr. John Clayton to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Vincent Jetts, all of this District. (July 18, 1835)

Died on 8th, at residence of J. C. Elrod, 14 miles below Greenville, Mrs. Rachel Ferguson, Consort of Thomas Ferguson, deceased. Age 82 years. (July 25, 1835)

Married at Spartanburg Court House on 21st by Rev. Landrum, Mr. George Shuford of Livingston, Ala., to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of James Hunt ,of Spartanburg. (July 25, 1835)

Married on 21st by Rev. Joseph Robinson, Colonel John T. Ligon to Miss Frances Young, all of this District. (August 1, 1835)

Died at Greenville on 26th ult., of Measles, Mr. Nathaniel Vannoy, age 87. Revolutionary soldier. A native of North Carolina. (August 1, 1835)

Died on 28th ult., Mr. Elisha Hamlin, age 22. A graduate of South Carolina College, and just completing law. (August 1, 1835)

Died on 17th ult., Sarah Maria, youngest child of Dr. John Crittenden, age 8 months. Her mother died of Measles also last month. (August 1, 1835)

Married on 19th ult., by Rev. May, Mr. Jefferson Haze to Miss Lovey Flemming, all of Spartanburg. (August 8, 1835)

Married on 26th by Rev. May, Mr. Stephen White, to Miss Rebecca James. (August 8, 1835)

Died near Spartanburg Court House, 23rd ult., Mr. Silas Rainwater, age 26. (August 8, 1835)

Died on 14th ult., in Greene County, Ala., Mr. William H. Stone, age 21. Native of Greenville District, and son of Barrister Stone. (August 8, 1835)

(To be continued)

EPITAPHS FROM FAMILY CEMETERIES ON JOHN'S ISLAND

Contributed by RICHARD JENKINS BRYAN

LEGAREVILLE

According to local tradition, Legareville, an ante-bellum planters' summer resort of about twenty houses with their outbuildings, an Episcopal chapel and a Presbyterian church, was burned by order of a Confederate officer¹ during the War for Southern Independence, to prevent Federal troops from using it as a base.

I have a painting of Legareville which I copied from a painting made in 1870 by Portia Trenholm from a pencil sketch done in 1852, and which is now owned by Mrs. Bell Burden Walpole,² of John's Island, who inherited it from her father.

The old foundations, chimneys, wells and cisterns which survived the destruction of the village, were utilized as local sources of supply for brick, and only a few large cedars and oaks remain to mark the site, now owned by members of the Hay family. Originally the land was owned by the Legaré family, who sold lots to other planters. I have seen deeds to lots at Legareville: Solomon Legaré to John B. Whaley, March 6, 1848; John B. Whaley to Isaac K. Wilson, January 3, 1854; J. R. Wilson to Thomas Roper, May 30, 1860. Other families that spent their summers at Legareville were: Walpole, Grimball, Burden, Matthews, Brown, Fripp, and Bryan.

The tombstones are in a field some distance from the village site, and are not surrounded by a wall. When I last saw them some years ago they were lying flat, accidentally knocked down by a tractor.

Here rests the body of Major William Boone. He was Born August the 20, 1696 & Departed this Life March the 20th 1750. [Footstone:] W B

Sacred to the Memory of Ester the wife of Caleb Lloyd whose Body in hopes of a Joyful Resurrection Resteth Here. She died January 16, 1763 at the age of 20 Possest in an Eminent degree of every christian Virtue. Stranger, Indulgent Heaven affords thee yet a Moment Longer. . . .

AULD REEKIE

To the northwest of Legareville across a creek, there is a cemetery on Auld Reekie Plantation, now owned by members of the Walpole family.

¹ Probably Major John Jenkins, Third South Carolina Cavalry, in July 1864, when some 5000 Federal troops were forced to withdraw from John's Island. Editor.

² Wife of Bassnett Walpole.



Copied by Richard J. Bryan from the painting by Portia Trenholm

LEGAREVILLE, ON THE STONO RIVER, JOHN'S ISLAND, IN 1852

When I last saw this cemetery some years ago, it was enclosed by the remains of an iron railing, and was in fairly good condition.

Sacred to the memory of Charles Freer who departed this life January 9th, 1809, aged 18 years. He lived beloved and respected and died sincerely Lamented. Also Mary Freer, Consort of Charles Freer, who departed this life July 16, 1812, aged 18 years. She was an exemplary Wife, an affectionate Parent, and a Pious Christian.

Sacred to the memory of Mary Blacklock, daughter of John and Susannah Freer of John's Island, and Wife of William Blacklock, Esq. She was born Nov. 10, 1774, and died March 27th, 1811.

Within this enclosure Rest the mortal remains of William Blacklock, Esq., a native of Dumfries Shire, Scotland, But for many years a resident of Charleston, So. Ca. He died the 24th February, 1816.

In memory of Mrs. Susannah Freer, Daughter of William and Jane Boone, and Wife of John Freer, of John's Island. She died in August 1817 Aged 80 Years.

RUSH'S

This cemetery is on lands now called Chaplin's or Chaplin Plantation. By a deed from Mrs. Catharine Rush to Benjamin Dart Roper, the enclosure was reserved to the Rush family forever, but despite this, many bricks have been removed from the wall surrounding the monument.

Beneath This Marble lie the Remains of Doctor Joseph Rush and his relict Mrs. Catharine Rush, the former, a native of Pennsylvania was born the 20th August 1761 and died on this Plantation the 20th Decr. 1817. He was for many years an eminent Practitioner of Medicine in this Parish. The latter was born at Nassau in New Providence the—March 1760 and died at her House in Charleston the 17th Decr. 1825. They were alike pious and Charitable Without Ostentation, and their benevolence and friendships alike disinterested. Sacred to that friendship and to perpetuate the memory of their exalted Worth and Virtues This monument is erected by B. D. Roper Senr. 1833.

BRICK HOUSE

At Brick House or Stanyarne Hall, now owned by members of the Hamilton family, the cemetery is enclosed by a fence of iron pipes supported by concrete posts, ugly but substantial. The tombstones are in good condi-

tion, except that two are leaning. The house is almost a ruin. Most of the thick brick walls are intact, but the roof and interior are in very bad condition.

Here lies the Body of Joseph Stanyarne Senr. who departed this Life April the 7th 1772 Aged 72 Years.

Here lies the Body of Henrietta Stanyarne Wife of James Stanyarne who departed this life June 8, 1771, Aged 28 years.

Here lies the Body of Archibald Stanyarne Esqr. who departed this life June 25th, 1773, Aged 45 Years.

In Grateful Memory of Mrs. Annah Stanyarne who departed this life Decr. 10th 1789, Aged 54 Years & 12 Days. She was beloved by a Numerous acquaintance and ever devoted to acts of Friendship and Charity. Her last illness was borne with resignation and she departed in peace.

Sacred to the Memory of William Stanyarne Esqr. who departed this life May 15th, 1784, Aged 50 Years. The firm and Manly qualities of his Mind Joined to the Strictest Honor and integrity in the private Walks of Life endeared Him to his Family and Friends. . . . Footstone: William Stanyarne 1784.

Sacred to the Memories of my aunt Anna Stanyarne and My two Brothers Charles Freer and John Joseph Freer. . . .

NOTES AND REVIEWS*

REVIEWS AND NOTICES OF BOOKS

A Union Officer in the Reconstruction. By John William De Forest. Edited by James H. Croushore and David M. Potter. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1948. Pp. xxx, 211. Index. \$3.75.)

This is a book by a young Connecticut-born bureaucrat endowed with literary talent and charged with an impossible task in a ruined land, who observed intelligently and wrote surpassingly well of what he saw.

The scene was Greenville, then a rural village, in the rugged foothills of South Carolina. There from October 2, 1866, until he left fifteen months later, Major De Forest was in charge of the sub-district under the Freedmen's Bureau, consisting of the counties of Greenville and Pickens, to which later was added Anderson County. His evaluation of Federal relief policies toward starving people in a devastated country, might prove illuminating to the present administration: "It alleviated a considerable amount of suffering, prevented possibly a few cases of starvation, seduced many thousands of people from work, and fostered a spirit of idleness and beggary."

In ten interesting chapters, De Forest tells of his duties and problems, of bushwackers, poor white trash, impoverished gentry, brother officials, freedmen, outrages against whites as well as against negroes, and all with a realism and detachment that are remarkable in a man who had recently fought in the Federal armies. De Forest, however, had both visited and lived in South Carolina before the war, and with his wife had departed from Charleston on the last steamer to leave before the fall of Fort Sumter.

Regrettably, but in the fashion of the day, De Forest does not always give the real names of the people of whom he wrote. With this exception, his narratives, often amusing and always entertaining, are precise, detailed and realistic.

The editors have contributed an excellent introduction and footnotes which place the narration in its historical perspective, and illuminate the text.

A Union Officer in the Reconstruction is a valuable addition to the history of South Carolina, all the more valuable because it is the testimony of a New Englander who wrote without passion and drew his own conclusions from personal experience.

A. K. G.

* This department will print queries concerning South Carolina history and genealogy. Copy should be sent to the Editor, South Carolina Historical Society, Fireproof Building, Charleston 5, S. C.

The Whig Party in Georgia, 1825-1853. By Paul Murray. (Chapel Hill: The James Sprunt Studies in History and Political Science, vol. 29; University of North Carolina Press, 1948. Pp. vii, 218. Index. No price listed.)

This is a valuable study for those interested in details of politics of the past.

The rise, organization, and principles of the conservative element in Georgia politics between 1825 and 1853 denominated the Troup State Rights Whig Party and boasting itself the party of talents, culture, training, and high ideals of public service, prove that its most constant support, due to its emphasis on promotion of general economic progress, came from cotton-growing counties, or those supplementing cotton-growing by primary types of manufacturing and commerce. The small group of nullifiers it included never succeeded in lining up the party with South Carolina in its effort to curb undesirable Federal activity. Federal questions and national issues, however, gradually forced the Whigs of Georgia into the Democratic party, "even then set in its uncompromising role of protecting angel for sectional and property interests."

Mr. Murray is thorough, and handles the mass of informative detail with skill, but leaves chiefly the impression that it is difficult to find principles in political shifts.

Leah Townsend

Roots in Virginia. By Nathaniel Claiborne Hale. (Published privately. Philadelphia: George H. Buchanan Company, 1948. Pp. 227. Illustrations. Index. \$8.00.)

This book gives an account of the Hale family connections, with biographical notes on the related families in Virginia and South Carolina, and throughout the country, including as principal connections the Saunders, Luckes, Claibornes, and Laceys of the former state, and the Tobins of South Carolina. Ancestral strains have been recorded, and brief accounts given of a large number of the members of these connections. There are illustrations of several homes of individual ancestors, and of their portraits or photographs. There is a good map illustrating the Virginia frontier when the Hales first settled there.

The Tobin connection includes a number of well-known South Carolina families that spring from Barnwell District, including the Lartigues, Peeples, Hagoods, Bowmans, and their related clans.

The book is handsomely done, has a good index, and a very good arrangement of material.

Samuel Gaillard Stoney.

The Letters of Edgar Allan Poe (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1948, 2 volumes, [pp. xii, 664], \$10.00), edited by John Ward Ostrom, is the first full edition of the letters of Poe, some 339 in all, covering his life from the age of fifteen years until a month before his death. In this scholarly compilation by Professor Ostrom, the real Poe is clearly revealed in all his many phases, as editor, critic, artist, literary theorist, and as a man who suffered.

The American Wild Turkey (Georgetown: Small Arms Technical Publishing Company, 1949, [pp. x, 319], \$5.00), by Henry E. Davis of Florence, with a preface by Herbert Ravenel Sass, is being acclaimed by reviewers as a notable and permanent contribution to South Caroliniana. It is also an unusually handsome piece of bookmaking.

Another encyclopaedic work devoted to a single bird, *The Pigeon* (pp. 544; 785 illustrations; \$10.00), by Wendell M. Levi of Sumter, was privately printed by the author in 1941. He reports that to date, copies of this book have been sold in sixty-seven foreign countries, in addition to sales in America.

FORTHCOMING BOOKS

In October, *South Carolina Birds*, by Alexander Sprunt and Burnham Chamberlain, will issue from the University of South Carolina Press as Contribution No. 11 of the Charleston Museum. Mr. Sprunt has written the life histories and Mr. Chamberlain has compiled statistical data concerning migration dates and other important records. The book will contain about 560 pages, illustrated with thirty-five color plates from paintings by John Henry Dick, Edward vonS. Dingle, Francis Lee Jaques and Roger Tory Peterson; and also forty-eight reproductions of photographs from the collections of Alan Cruickshanks, Samuel Grimes, Carl Julien and others.

The Carolina Art Association has announced that its next publication will be the reminiscences of the late D. E. Huger Smith, which will be quite a change from the Association's previous publications on art and architecture. Mr. Smith was long an active officer of the South Carolina Historical Society; and his reminiscences, spanning the fifty years from 1855 to 1905, were written for his children.

HISTORICAL STUDIES IN PROGRESS

Humanistic Scholarship in the South: A Survey of Work in Progress (Southern Humanities Conference, Bulletin No. 1, Chapel Hill: University

of North Carolina Press, 1948, pp. 165), by Thomas B. Stroup, lists the following studies in South Carolina History in progress: Rudolph L. Biessele, The Life and Career of Colonel Barnard E. Bee; Gerald M. Capers, Biography of John C. Calhoun; Charles E. Cauthen, Social and Economic History of South Carolina, 1860-65, and also South Carolina Goes to War, 1860-65; Isaac J. Copeland, Higher Education in Ante-bellum South Carolina; S. Frank Logan, A Biography of F. W. Dawson, 1840-1889: A South Carolina Editor; R. L. Meriwether, The South Carolina Back Country, 1765-1808; Austin L. Venable, Biography of William Lowndes Yancey, and also The Letters of William Lowndes Yancey; Bennett H. Wall, Life of J. J. Pettigru (*sic*); Robert H. Woody, Biography of Christopher Gadsden.

THE SOCIETY

Since the last annual meeting, applications for membership have been received from the Rev. DeWolf Perry (Charleston), Major John W. Moore (Mt. Pleasant), Judge E. L. Fishburne (Walterboro), Furman E. Pearce (New Orleans, La.), Mrs. T. T. Deane (Petal, Miss.).

The Society now has three sustaining members: Josephine Pinckney (Charleston), W. W. Montgomery, Jr. (Philadelphia, Pa.), Paul Quattbaum (Conway); and fifteen contributing members: Edward C. Coker (Society Hill), Dr. S. D. Craig (Winston-Salem, N. C.), John Stuart Dudley (New York, N. Y.), Mrs. Charles H. Duke (Columbia), J. H. Easterby (Charleston), Erskine College (Due West), Archer M. Huntington (New York, N. Y.), John Kean (Elizabeth, N. J.), Benjamin R. Kittredge (Charleston), William McG. Morrison (Charleston), Herbert A. Moses (Sumter), Alice R. Huger Smith (Charleston), William Mason Smith (New York, N. Y.), Thomas A. Stone (Washington, D. C.), Mrs. Thomas Taylor (Columbia).

Among recent gifts to the Society was a copy of *Rosemont and Its Famous Daughter*, from the author, Marion R. Wilkes of Washington, D. C. It is a well-documented account of Rosemont Plantation in Laurens County, the ancestral home of Ann Pamela Cunningham, who rescued Mount Vernon from decay and made it a national shrine.

Miss Mary Sparkman has presented a manuscript volume of information on the Marion family. Miss Caroline P. Rutledge has donated a little volume of religious poems which came in on a blockade runner in 1863 and was a gift to her mother, then Caroline Seabrook. *The News and Courier* has given a photostat of a letter from F. W. Dawson, June 23, 1886, to J. M. McBryde, President of the South Carolina College, transmitting to that institution thirty-eight volumes of the Charleston *News* and its successor, the *News and Courier*.

Harvard University, through Mrs. Grace Patton Bowser, librarian, has turned over to the Society some thirty pamphlets containing speeches of John C. Calhoun, George McDuffie, Robert Y. Hayne, Hugh S. Legare, and other members of the South Carolina delegations to Congress.

As old pictures are often source materials of great value, the Society would like to build up a collection of historical pictures that will be representative of the entire state. Old paintings, drawings or photographs of historic churches, dwellings, public buildings, and street scenes or other views of old towns, are especially desired. Members of the Society are urged to search in their attics and among old souvenirs for items which they might add to the proposed picture collection.

OTHER HISTORICAL AGENCIES

The nineteenth annual meeting of the South Carolina Historical Association was held at the University of South Carolina on April 2, 1949, and the entire day was devoted to the program. At the morning session, Professor Charles H. Carlisle of Erskine College spoke on "Woodrow Wilson's Pan-American Pact" and Professor C. Waldron Bolen of Clemson College on "Kiderlen-Wachter's Policy in the Bosnian Crisis." The association was the guest of the University at luncheon, at which the annual business was disposed of. The afternoon session in the manuscripts room of the Caroliniana Library was featured by two more papers: "Teaching of High School History—A Point of View" by Lucia Daniel, of the University High School; and "South Carolina Cotton Mills and Tillman's Movement," by Gustavus G. Williamson, Jr., of Johns Hopkins University; which were followed by a social hour at which the Library was host. The program concluded with the annual banquet in the evening, when Professor E. Baskin Wright of the University spoke on "The Problem of Negro Education in the South."

The thirteenth annual meeting of the University South Caroliniana Society was held in the old Caroliniana Library of the University on the evening of April 26. As usual the Library was host to the members of the Society at the annual dinner, after which Mrs. Arney R. Childs, Dean of Women and Professor of History at the University, made the annual address on "The Usable Past." A feature of the occasion was an exhibit of historical books and papers donated to the Library during the year by members.

The Huguenot Society of South Carolina held its sixty-fourth anniversary meeting at the South Carolina Society Hall in Charleston on April 21.

After the business session, Dr. David Duncan Wallace made an address on "Henry Laurens, Huguenot and American," which will appear in the forthcoming issue of the *Transactions* of the society.

CORRECTION

Mrs. Charles G. Ward of South Pasadena, California, historian of the Haigler Family Association, has noted an error in a footnote (this *Magazine*, XLIV, 8) concerning the date of death of King Hagler of the Catawba Indians. The chief was killed on August 30, 1763, "by roving enemies, thought to be Nottoways" (D. D. Wallace, *History of South Carolina*, II, 37).

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Mrs. Emmy Jeanne Thomas Clement, 6612 Andasol Avenue, Van Nuys, California, desires information regarding the parents of her great grandfather, William Milton Thomas, born in Laurens or Spartanburg in 1813. According to family tradition, he was an only son of an only son, and a descendant of Col. John Thomas of Spartanburg County. One of his sisters married a Ferrell and as a widow moved to Arkansas in 1870. Two other sisters, Mrs. Sara Turner and Mrs. Maggie McCullough, lived and died in South Carolina. William Milton Thomas in 1841 married Sarah Rena Daniels of Virginia, and in 1857 moved to Bradley County, Arkansas.

FAMILY REUNION

Descendants of the Cubbage and Coppedge families who formerly lived near Sumter and in St. Philip's Parish, Charleston, are notified that the 301st anniversary meeting of the Coppedge Family Association will be held on August 20, at the Phoenix Hotel in Lexington, Kentucky.

A. MAX COPPAGE, PRESIDENT
Box 166, Hale, Missouri

